The #1 national bestselling series, now in manga!

WARRIORS

TIGERSTAR & SASHA

ESCAPE FROM THE FOREST

ERIN HUNTER

2

TOKYOPOP

HARPER COLLINS

Sasha's adventures continue in

WARRIORS

TIGERSTAR & SASHA

RETURN TO THE CLANS

Keep watch for all the Warriors books!

WARRIORS #1:
Into the Wild

WARRIORS:
The New Prophecy #1:
Midnight

WARRIORS:
Power of Three #1:
The Sight

www.harpercollinschildrens.com
BOOK NEWS. GAMES. CONTESTS. AND MORE

US $6.99 / $7.50 CAN

ISBN 978-0-06-154793-5

50699

9 780061 547935 S

South San Francisco Public Library
3 9048 08240988 3

WARRIORS

TIGERSTAR & SASHA

2: ESCAPE FROM THE FOREST

WITHDRAWN

S.S.F. Public Library
Grand Ave.
306 Walnut Ave.
South San Francisco, CA 94080

APR 2009

GAYLORD

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2015

https://archive.org/details/warriorsescapefr00hunt

WARRIORS

TIGERSTAR & SASHA

2: ESCAPE FROM THE FOREST

CREATED BY
ERIN HUNTER

WRITTEN BY
DAN JOLLEY

ART BY
DON HUDSON

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

HarperCollins*Publishers*

Warriors: Tigerstar and Sasha Vol. 2: Escape from the Forest

Created by Erin Hunter
Written by Dan Jolley
Art by Don Hudson

Cover Colorist - Jason Van Winkle
Digital Tones - Lincy Chan
Lettering - Michael Paolilli
Cover Design - Tina Corrales

Editor - Jenna Winterberg
Pre-Production Supervisor - Vicente Rivera, Jr.
Print-Production Specialist - Lucas Rivera
Managing Editor - Vy Nguyen
Senior Designer - Louis Csontos
Senior Designer - James Lee
Senior Editor - Bryce P. Coleman
Senior Editor - Jenna Winterberg
Associate Publisher - Marco F. Pavia
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
C.E.O. and Chief Creative Officer - Stuart Levy

A TOKYOPOP® Manga

TOKYOPOP and are trademarks or registered trademarks of TOKYOPOP Inc.

TOKYOPOP Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

Text copyright © 2009 by Working Partners Limited
Art copyright © 2009 by TOKYOPOP Inc. and HarperCollins Publishers
All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.
No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.
This manga is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual events or locales or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.
For information address HarperCollins Children's Books, a division of HarperCollins Publishers, 1350 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019.
www.harpercollinschildrens.com

ISBN 978-0-06-154793-5
Library of Congress catalog card number: 2008904113

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
❖
First Edition

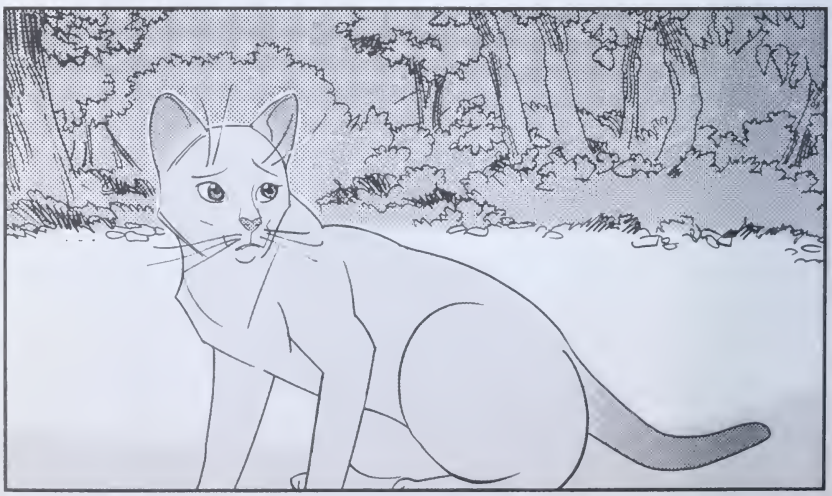
Dear readers,

Tigerstar didn't only betray the four Clans; he also betrayed the cat who loved him most—brave, hopeful, innocent Sasha. She fell for a warrior with the courage of a lion, only to discover that he was fox-hearted and treacherous to the tip of his tail. Luckily for Sasha, she left the forest before the battle with BloodClan, so she didn't see the full extent of Tigerstar's brutal ambitions, or his dramatic death (nine times over) beneath Scourge's strengthened claws. Right now, her priority is finding a new way of life, far from the forest where she had made her home. Once again, she has lost everything but her will to survive.

This time, help comes from a very unexpected quarter. One thing I admire most about Sasha is her strength of spirit. She's always ready to see kindness and warmth in other characters—which might have been her downfall where Tigerstar was concerned! Don't judge her harshly: Too often, characters that suffer the most become very cynical and resistant to signs of affection. Even when Sasha realizes that her life has become even more complicated, she never gives up hope.

Come, it's time to find out what happened when Sasha stumbled away fom ShadowClan with her heart broken into pieces. . . .

Best wishes always,
Erin Hunter

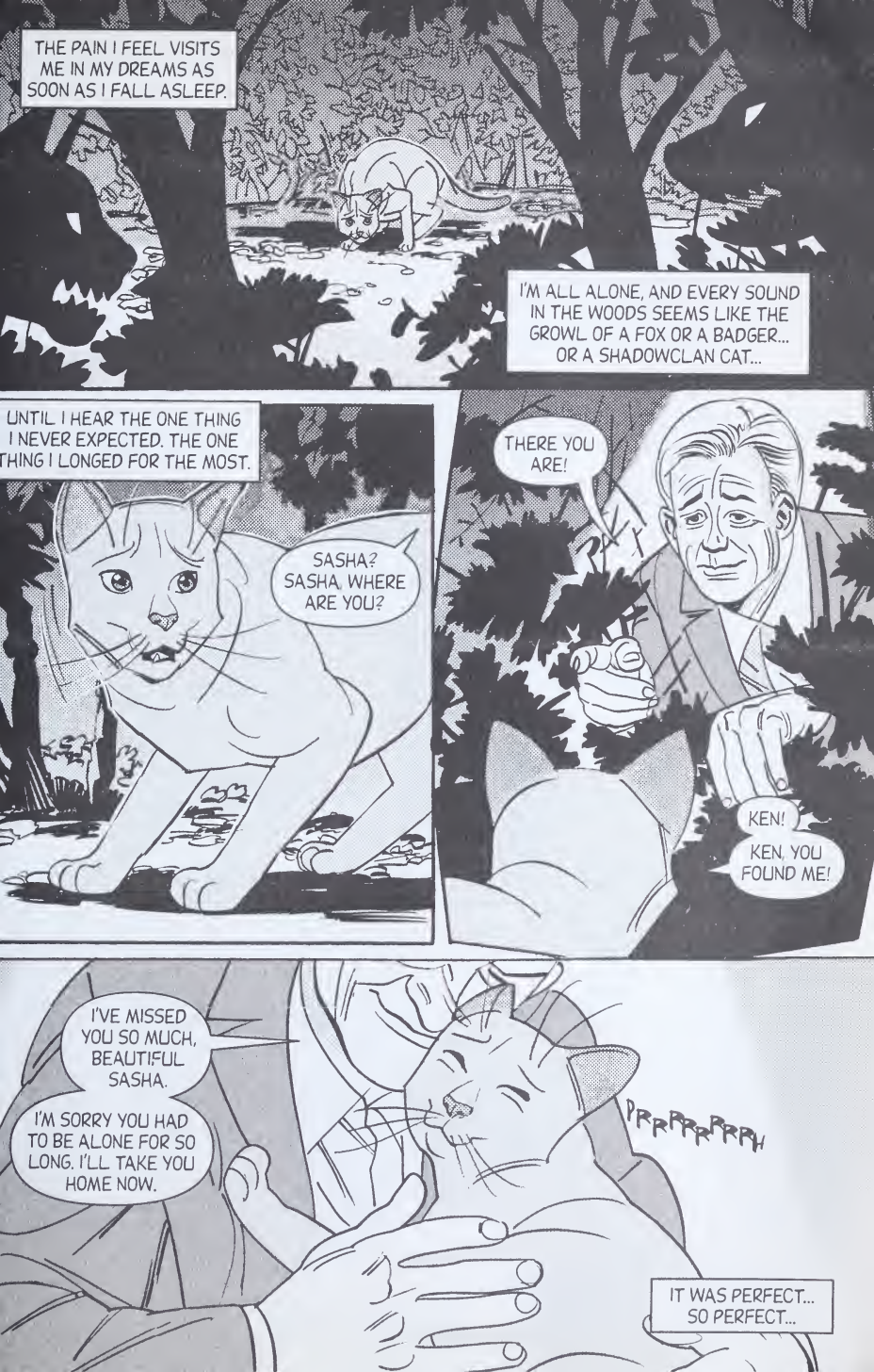


TIGERSTAR... I...NO.
I WON'T JOIN SHADOWCLAN.
WHAT?
I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T.
I WON'T.
BUT...SASHA, THINK WHAT I'M OFFERING YOU!
YOU WOULD BE BESIDE ME. EVERY CAT WOULD FEAR US.
I DON'T WANT TO BE FEARED! I WANT TO BE LOVED, AND I THOUGHT YOU LOVED ME.
I DO LOVE YOU.
I JUST THOUGHT...YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND...IT IS MY DESTINY TO RULE THE FOREST.
BUT IT'S NOT MINE.

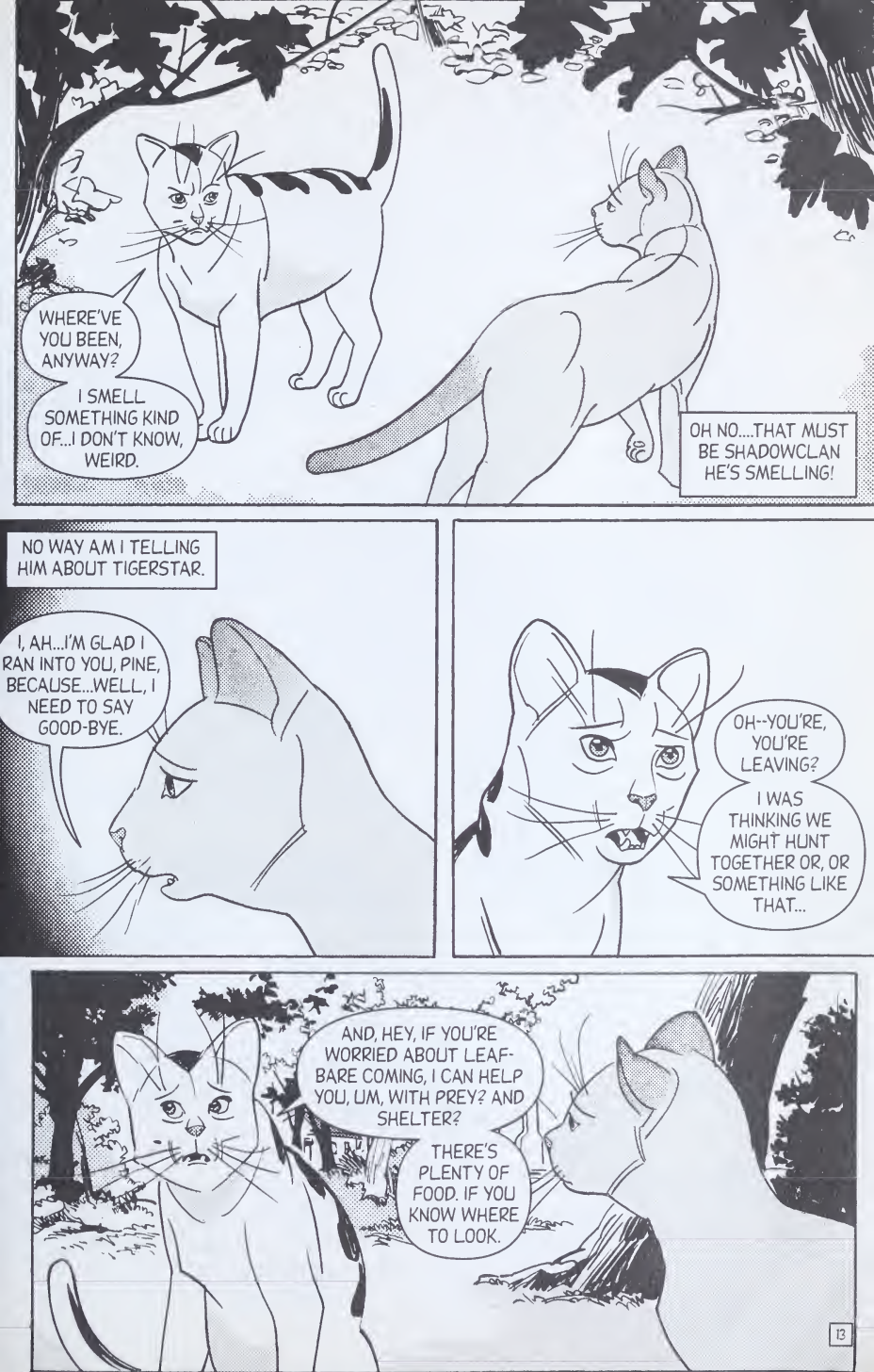
I THOUGHT YOU UNDERSTOOD HOW IMPORTANT BEING LEADER OF MY CLAN IS TO ME.
I DO.
BUT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO GOES FAR BEYOND THAT--
BEYOND THE WARRIOR CODE YOU'VE TOLD ME ABOUT, TOO.
HOW CAN YOU CONSIDER KILLING ALL THE CATS THAT WEREN'T BORN IN THE FOREST?
OR WHOSE PARENTS COME FROM DIFFERENT CLANS?
THAT'S NOT THEIR FAULT!

SO THAT WAS YOU, CREEPING ABOUT IN THE DARKNESS, LISTENING TO THINGS THAT DIDN'T CONCERN YOU.
FINE.
THE CATS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT POISON THE CLANS WITH THEIR IMPURE BLOOD!
HOW CAN WARRIORS BE STRONG IF THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE THEIR LOYALTIES LIE?
I DON'T THINK THIS IS ABOUT MAKING LIFE EASIER FOR THE WARRIORS.
I THINK THIS IS ABOUT YOU WANTING MORE POWER THAN YOU CAN HAVE. AND I DON'T WANT TO BE PART OF THAT.
IF YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO KILL THOSE CATS, DOESN'T THAT MEAN YOU'D HAVE TO KILL ME, TOO?
THIS IS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF YOUR LIFE, SASHA.
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN MORE THAN A KITTYPET. YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A WARRIOR.
NOW YOU WILL ALWAYS BE NOTHING.

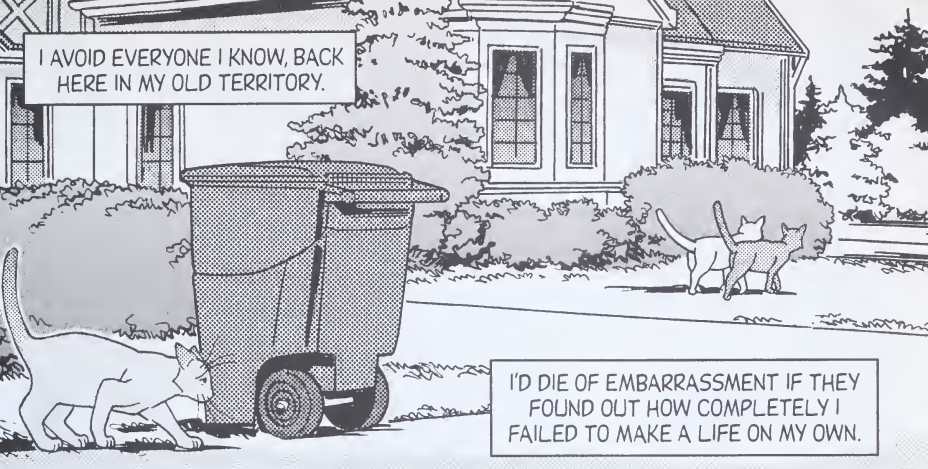
MY HEART HASN'T EVER BROKEN BEFORE.
IT HURTS.
BUT I'D RATHER BE NOTHING THAN A MURDERER.
TIGERSTAR LOVES POWER AND BLOODSHED MORE THAN HE LOVES ME. I SEE THAT NOW. BUT...
AM I REALLY NOTHING?
I'M NOT A KITTYPET, BECAUSE MY HOUSEFOLK HAVE GONE.
I'M NOT A LONER, BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE BEING ON MY OWN ALL THE TIME.
AND I CAN NEVER LIVE WITH TIGERSTAR IN SHADOWCLAN NOW.


THE PAIN I FEEL VISITS ME IN MY DREAMS AS SOON AS I FALL ASLEEP.
I'M ALL ALONE, AND EVERY SOUND IN THE WOODS SEEMS LIKE THE GROWL OF A FOX OR A BADGER... OR A SHADOWCLAN CAT...
UNTIL I HEAR THE ONE THING I NEVER EXPECTED. THE ONE THING I LONGED FOR THE MOST.
SASHA? SASHA, WHERE ARE YOU?
THERE YOU ARE!
KEN!
KEN, YOU FOUND ME!
I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH, BEAUTIFUL SASHA.
I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO BE ALONE FOR SO LONG. I'LL TAKE YOU HOME NOW.
PRRRRRRRRR
IT WAS PERFECT... SO PERFECT...

A PERFECTLY CRUEL DREAM.
I COME TO A DECISION NOT LONG AFTER I WAKE.
THERE'S NOTHING KEEPING ME HERE. I CERTAINLY DON'T BELONG HERE. I HAVE TO LEAVE...
...AND I HAVE TO FIND KEN. WHEREVER HE IS.
HEY, SASHA!
IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE STILL HERE--I MEAN, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR AGES.

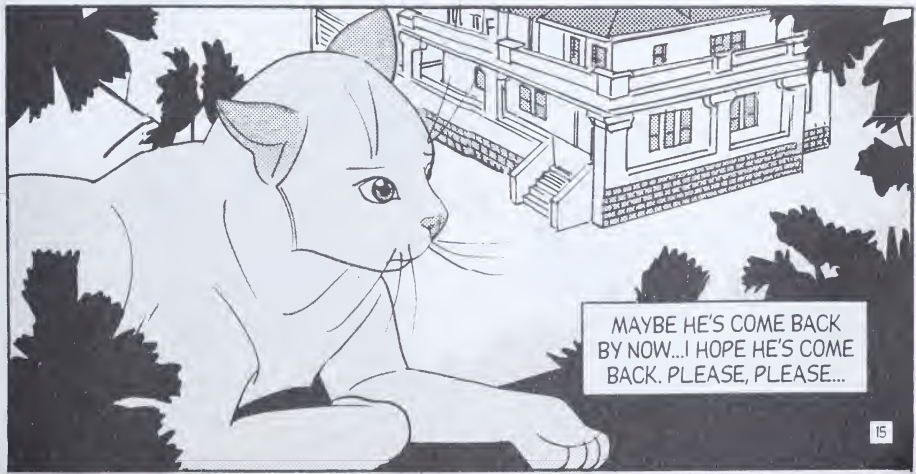

WHERE'VE YOU BEEN, ANYWAY?
I SMELL SOMETHING KIND OF...I DON'T KNOW, WEIRD.
OH NO....THAT MUST BE SHADOWCLAN HE'S SMELLING!
NO WAY AM I TELLING HIM ABOUT TIGERSTAR.
I, AH...I'M GLAD I RAN INTO YOU, PINE, BECAUSE...WELL, I NEED TO SAY GOOD-BYE.
OH--YOU'RE, YOU'RE LEAVING?
I WAS THINKING WE MIGHT HUNT TOGETHER OR, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
AND, HEY, IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT LEAF-BARE COMING, I CAN HELP YOU, UM, WITH PREY? AND SHELTER?
THERE'S PLENTY OF FOOD. IF YOU KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.

PLUS, UH, IF YOU'RE WORRIED...Y'KNOW, ABOUT BUMPING INTO ANY CLAN CATS...THERE'RE PLACES I CAN SHOW YOU.
DEEPER IN THE WOODS, I MEAN. THAT'S THE THING ABOUT THEIR BORDERS. THE CLANS DON'T CROSS THEM MUCH.
THANK YOU, PINE. IT'S VERY SWEET OF YOU TO OFFER.
BUT I HAVE TO FIND MY HOUSEFOLK. HIS NAME IS KEN, AND...
AND HE MUST BE MISSING ME TERRIBLY.
ALL RIGHT. WELL...
GOOD LUCK, SASHA. I REALLY HOPE YOU CAN FIND HIM.
I HOPE SO, TOO.
RIGHT NOW, KEN IS THE ONLY PART OF MY LIFE THAT MEANS ANYTHING.


I AVOID EVERYONE I KNOW, BACK HERE IN MY OLD TERRITORY.
I'D DIE OF EMBARRASSMENT IF THEY FOUND OUT HOW COMPLETELY I FAILED TO MAKE A LIFE ON MY OWN.

I DON'T EVEN WANT THE OTHER HOUSEFOLK TO SEE ME.

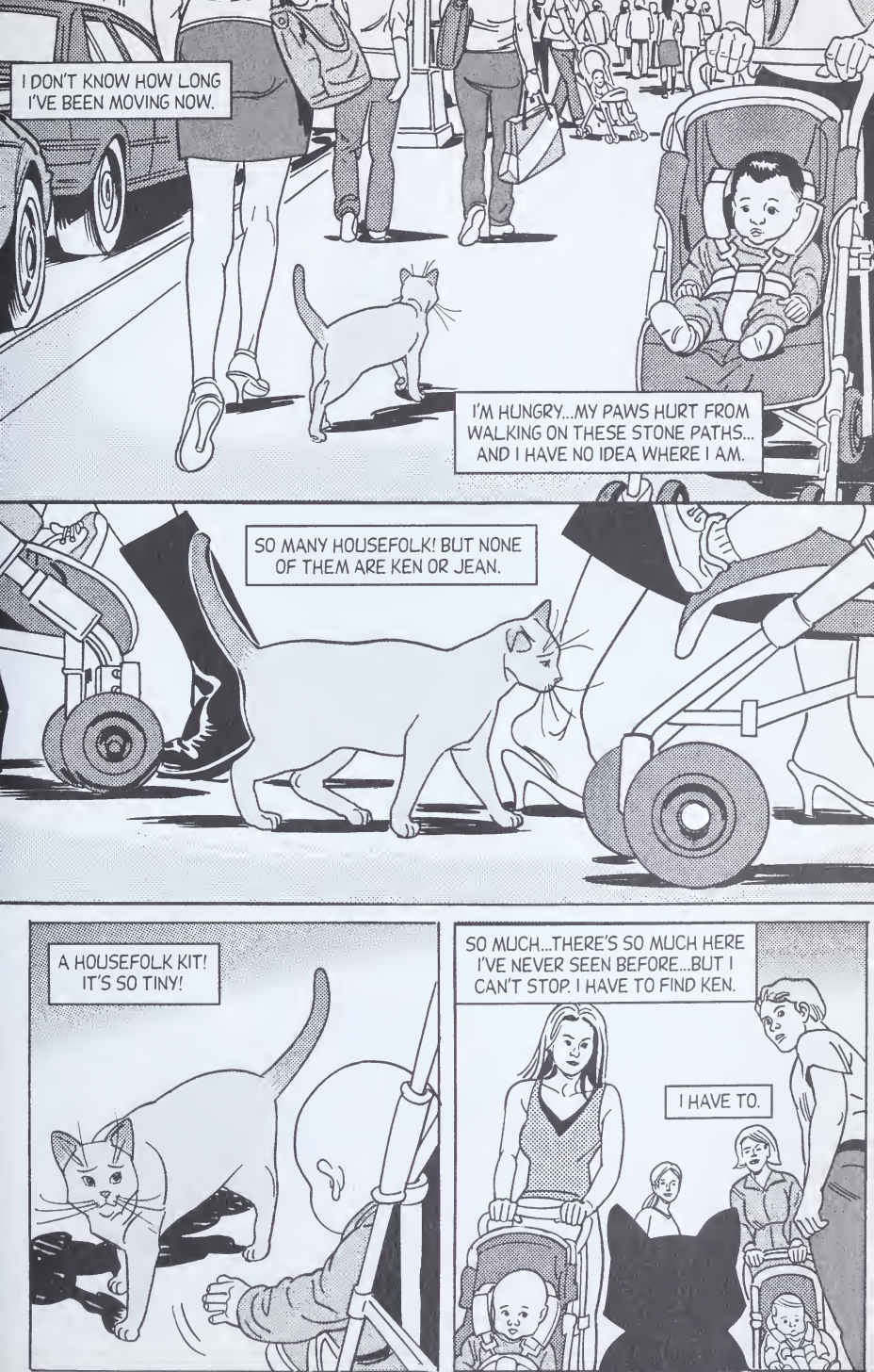
ONLY KEN.


MAYBE HE'S COME BACK BY NOW...I HOPE HE'S COME BACK. PLEASE, PLEASE...

THIS IS WHERE I LIVED...BUT IT SEEMS SO SMALL NOW!
AND IT LOOKS DIFFERENT. WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?
KEN...?
KEN? ARE YOU THERE? HELLO?
PLEASE BE HERE...

WHO'S THAT? WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE?
MRROW?
SCAT!
GET OUT OF HERE!
GET AWAY, YOU FILTHY CAT!
KEN'S NOT THERE. HE CAN'T BE THERE.

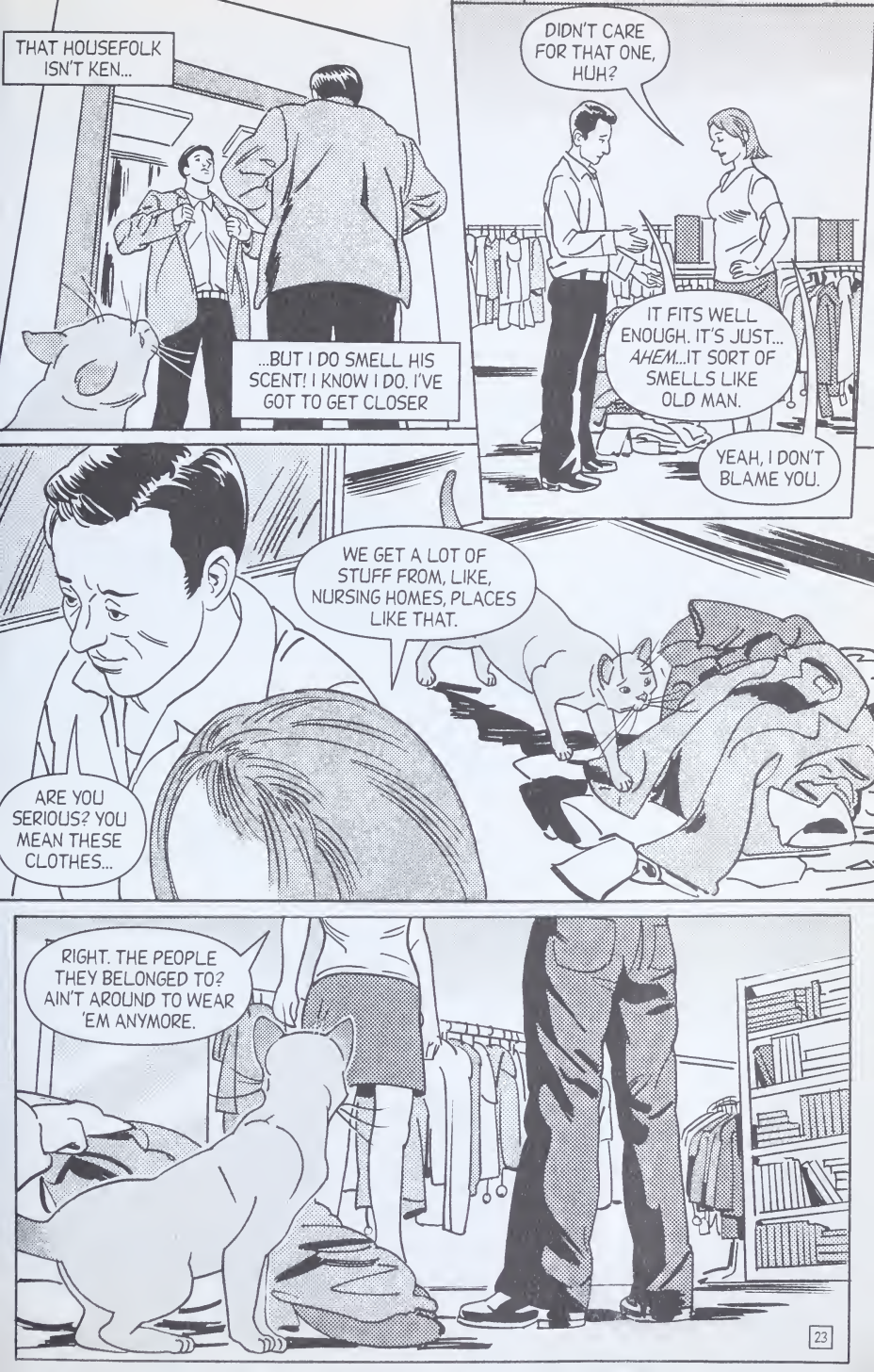
IT WAS STUPID OF ME EVEN TO HOPE.
DEEP DOWN, I KNOW I CAN'T CATCH IT. THOSE THINGS GO SO FAR, AND SO FAST! AND IT WAS SO LONG AGO.
BUT...I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE.
ALL RIGHT...WELL...KEN WENT AWAY IN ONE OF THOSE METAL BEASTS. AND I SAW WHICH WAY HE WENT.
I CAN'T EVEN GO BACK TO THE WOODS, NOW THAT I'VE TOLD PINE GOOD-BYE.
WHAT AM I DOING?
I WISH I KNEW.


I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN MOVING NOW.
I'M HUNGRY...MY PAWS HURT FROM WALKING ON THESE STONE PATHS... AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I AM.
SO MANY HOUSEFOLK! BUT NONE OF THEM ARE KEN OR JEAN.
A HOUSEFOLK KIT! IT'S SO TINY!
SO MUCH...THERE'S SO MUCH HERE I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE...BUT I CAN'T STOP. I HAVE TO FIND KEN.
I HAVE TO.

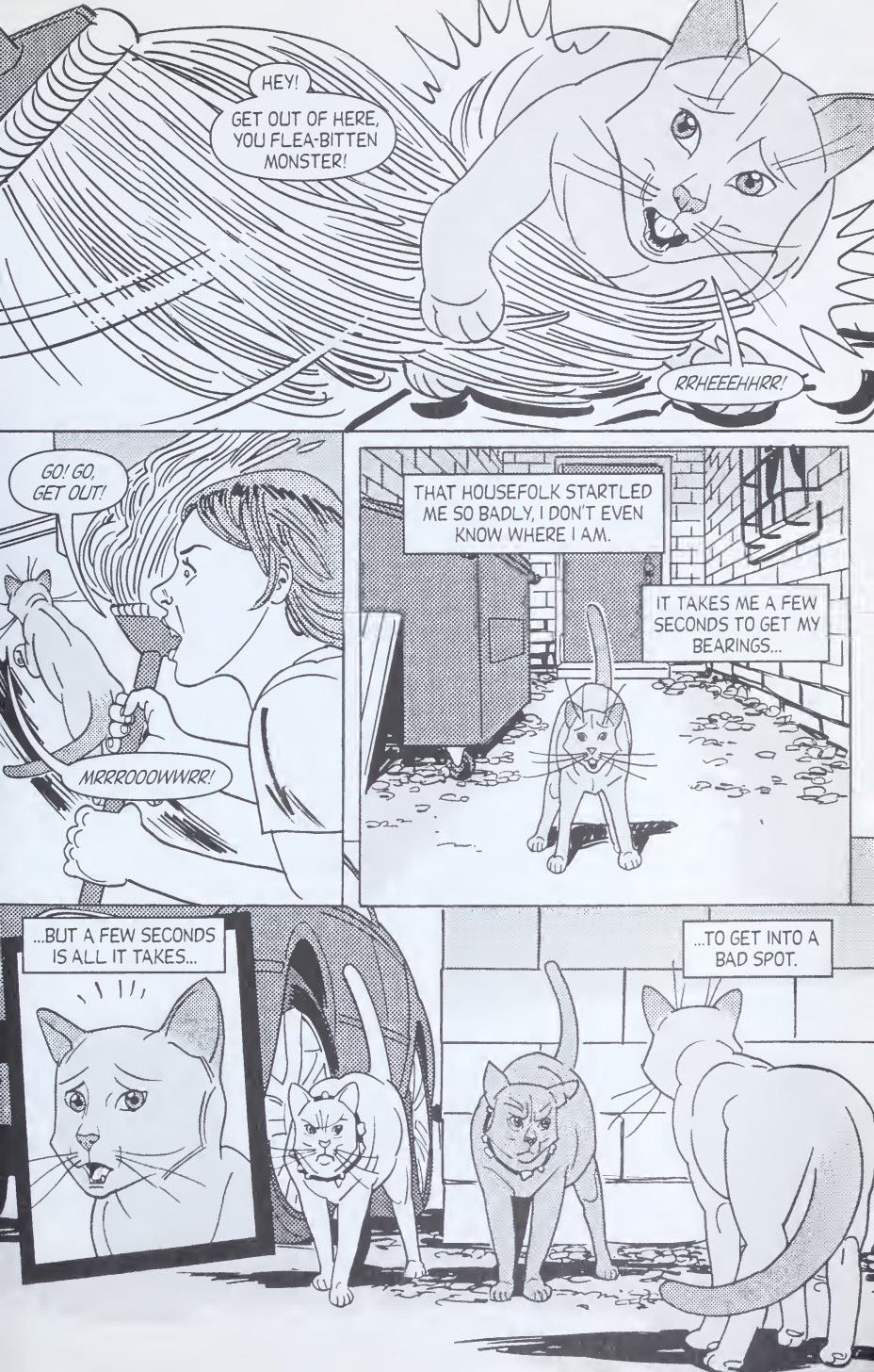
THE SMELL OF PREY STARTLES ME SO MUCH, AT FIRST I THINK I'M DREAMING AGAIN.
IT'S COMING FROM THAT PLACE.
OH...I'VE GOT TO BE DREAMING...
THERE'S SO MUCH FOOD IN HERE! IT'S LIKE A GIANT FRESH-KILL PILE! I HAD NO IDEA HOUSEFOLK ATE THIS SORT OF THING!
SURELY THEY WON'T MIND IF I TAKE A BIT...
...JUST A LITTLE TINY BIT...

I WANT TO BUY THE KITTY!
I'M SORRY, HONEY, BUT WE DON'T SELL KITTIES.
YES YOU DO! THERE!
GOODNESS ME! WHAT A LOVELY CAT!
BUT SHE DOESN'T BELONG TO ME, I'M AFRAID.
OH NO--NO, DON'T! PLEASE, I JUST WANTED A LITTLE BIT...I'M SO HUNGRY!
GO HOME, THERE'S A GOOD GIRL.
MRRRAAOWW!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER. THIS IS NO PLACE FOR ME.
MAYBE TIGERSTAR WAS RIGHT.
MAYBE I AM NOTHING.
BUT...WAIT...WAIT...!
I SMELL SOMETHING. I...I...
...I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
I SMELL KEN!


THAT HOUSEFOLK ISN'T KEN...
...BUT I DO SMELL HIS SCENT! I KNOW I DO. I'VE GOT TO GET CLOSER
DIDN'T CARE FOR THAT ONE, HUH?
IT FITS WELL ENOUGH. IT'S JUST... AHEM...IT SORT OF SMELLS LIKE OLD MAN.
YEAH, I DON'T BLAME YOU.
WE GET A LOT OF STUFF FROM, LIKE, NURSING HOMES, PLACES LIKE THAT.
ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU MEAN THESE CLOTHES...
RIGHT. THE PEOPLE THEY BELONGED TO? AIN'T AROUND TO WEAR 'EM ANYMORE.

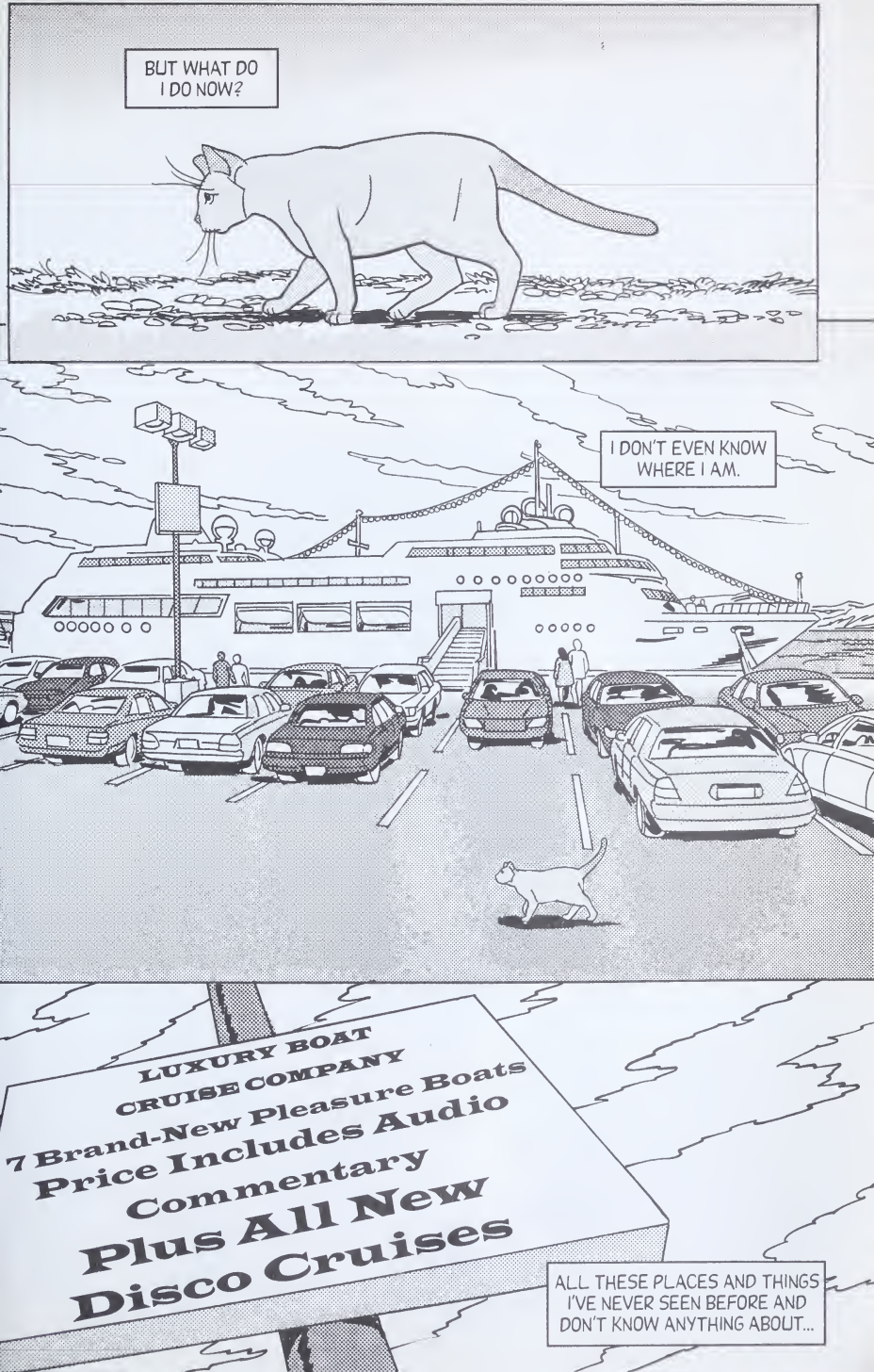
THIS DOES BELONG TO KEN! I WAS RIGHT!
AND THERE...THERE'S THAT LITTLE HOLE I PUT IN IT BY ACCIDENT.
JEAN WAS SO MAD WHEN I DID IT...BUT KEN JUST LAUGHED, AND SMILED, AND SCRATCHED ME BEHIND MY EARS.
BUT IF THIS IS KEN'S... WHY ISN'T HE HERE? WHERE COULD HE BE?
WHY CAN'T I FIND HIM...?
SOME PART OF ME, REALLY DEEP DOWN...SOME PART OF ME KNOWS SOMETHING'S WRONG. SOMETHING BAD.
BUT RIGHT NOW...I'M JUST TOO TIRED TO KEEP LOOKING.

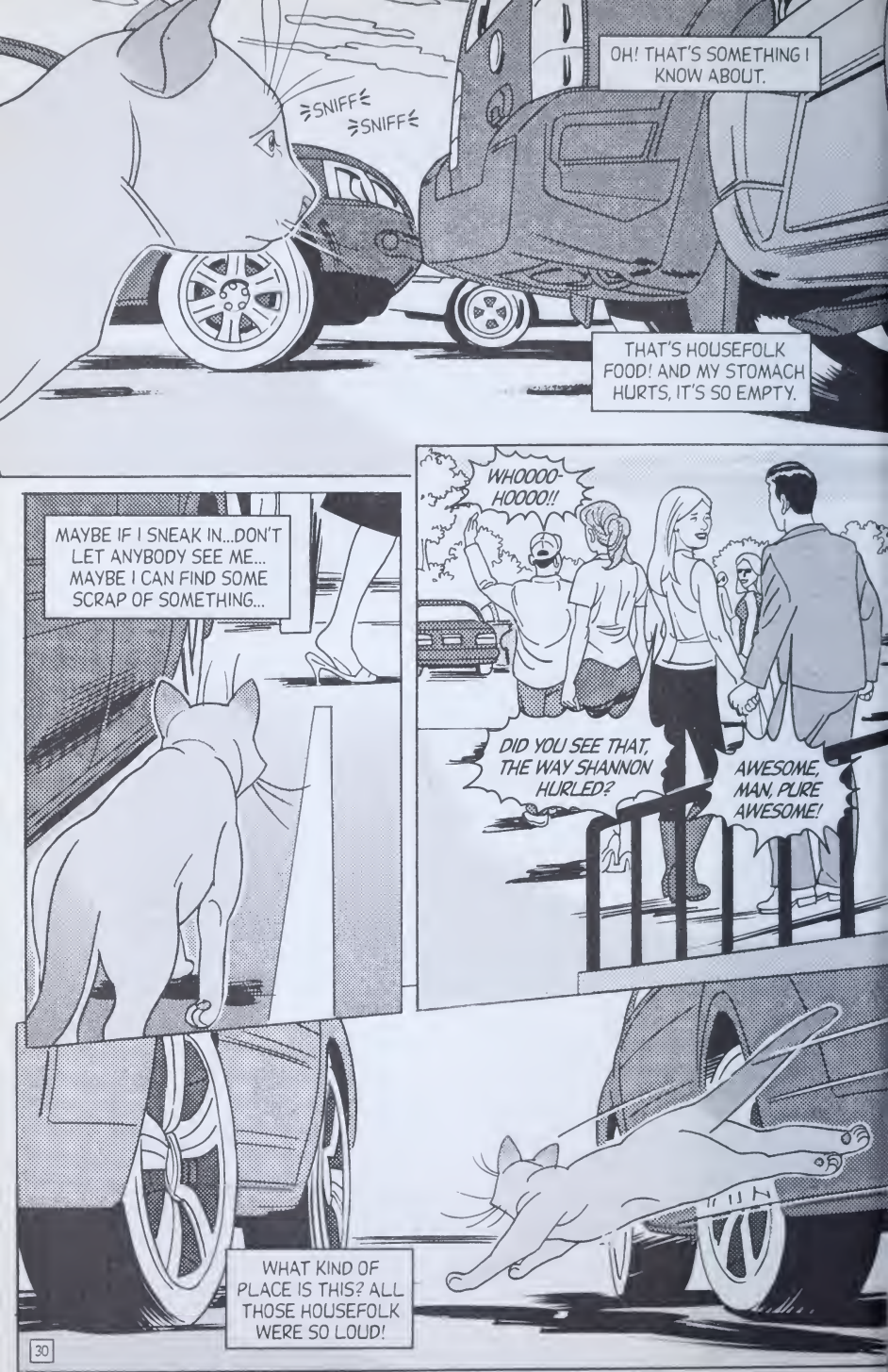

HEY!
GET OUT OF HERE, YOU FLEA-BITTEN MONSTER!
RRHEEEHHRR!
GO! GO, GET OUT!
MRRROOOWWRR!
THAT HOUSEFOLK STARTLED ME SO BADLY, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE I AM.
IT TAKES ME A FEW SECONDS TO GET MY BEARINGS...
...BUT A FEW SECONDS IS ALL IT TAKES...
...TO GET INTO A BAD SPOT.

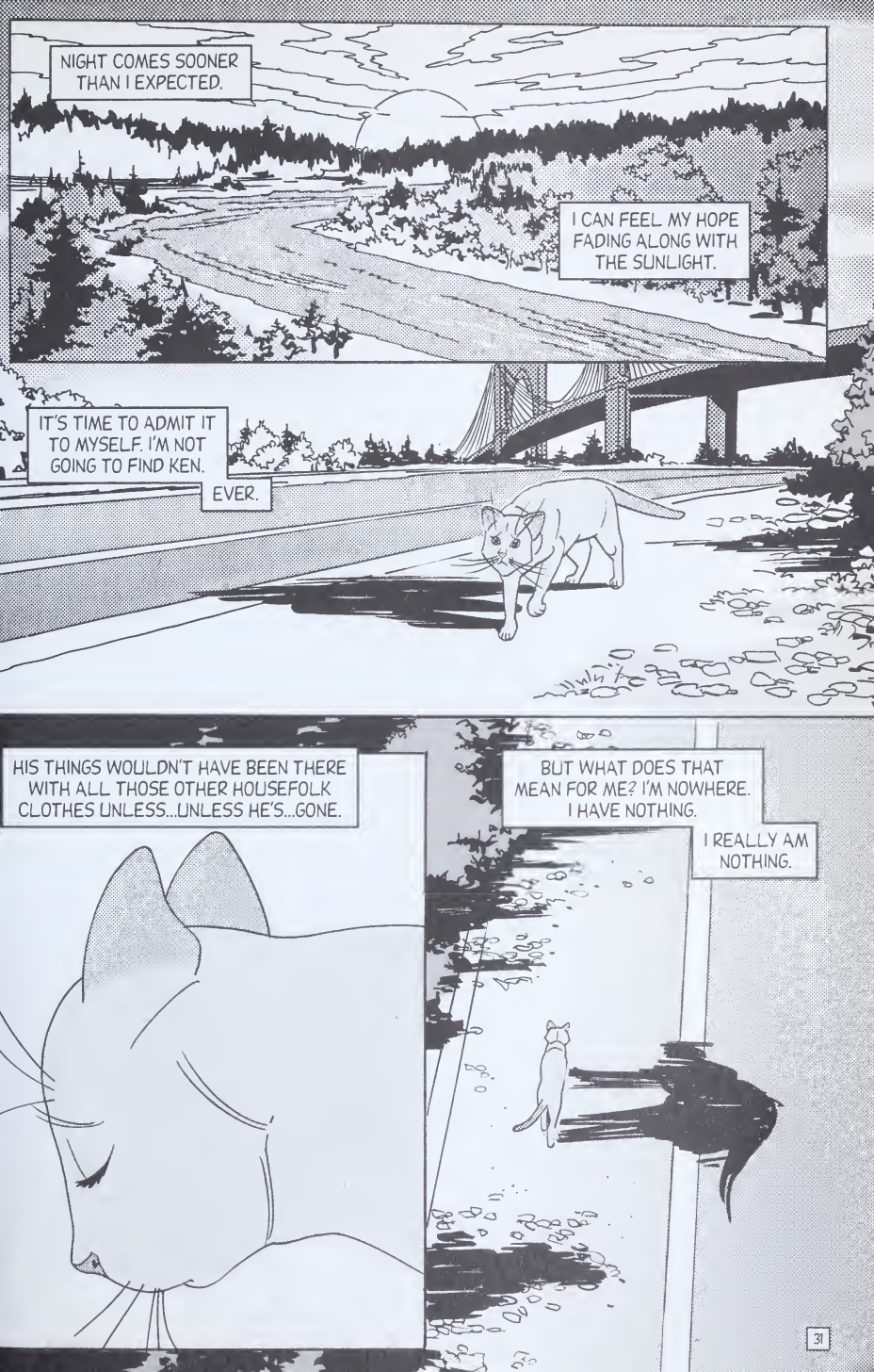
YOU'RE NOT WELCOME HERE.
BUT--I DON'T--
WE DIDN'T SAY YOU COULD SPEAK.
YOU'RE NOT OF BLOODCLAN. GET OUT OF HERE...
...UNLESS YOU WANT TO END UP IN FRONT OF SCOURGE.
SCOURGE! THE LEADER OF BLOODCLAN!
HE'S THE ONE BRINGING HIS WARRIORS TO THE FOREST, TO CONQUER ALL THE OTHER CLANS WITH TIGERSTAR!

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH SCOURGE, OR ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF BLOODCLAN.
I WAS ONLY PASSING THROUGH. I DIDN'T MEAN ANY OFFENSE.
I HOPE NEITHER OF THEM NOTICES HOW TERRIFIED I AM!
I'LL JUST BE ON MY WAY NOW.
OH, YOU'LL BE ON YOUR WAY, ALL RIGHT.
WE'LL SEE TO THAT.
HERE.
THIS IS THE EDGE OF BLOODCLAN TERRITORY. DON'T FORGET IT.

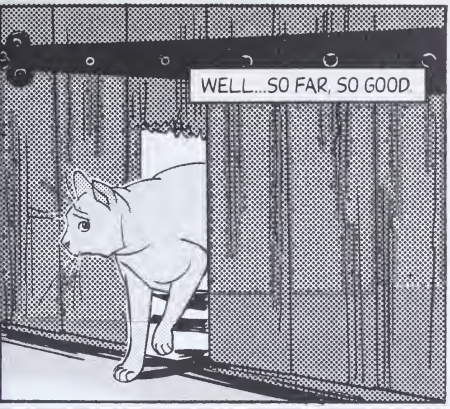
BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T SCAMPER YOUR PRETTY LITTLE TAIL OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT PATH RIGHT NOW...
WE'RE GOING TO RIP YOUR HEAD RIGHT OFF YOUR SHOULDERS!
I THINK THEY MEAN IT! I'VE GOT TO RUN...!
MRREEERH!
MADE IT...JUST BARELY, BUT I MADE IT...

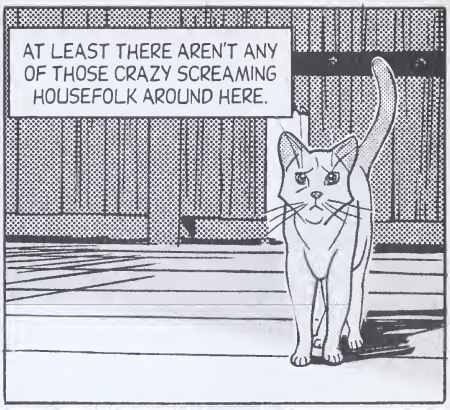

BUT WHAT DO I DO NOW?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE I AM.
LUXURY BOAT CRUISE COMPANY
7 Brand-New Pleasure Boats
Price Includes Audio Commentary
Plus All New Disco Cruises
ALL THESE PLACES AND THINGS I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE AND DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT...

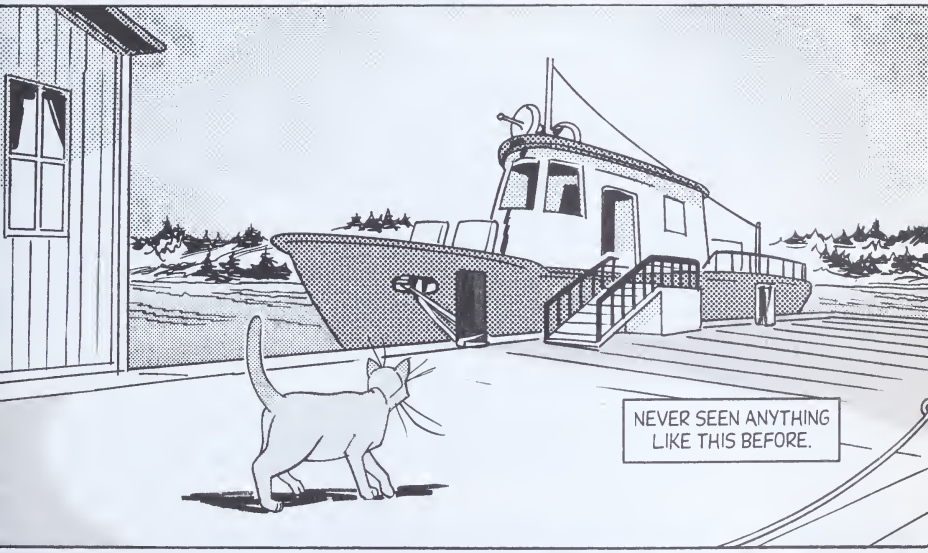

OH! THAT'S SOMETHING I KNOW ABOUT.
SNIFF
SNIFF
THAT'S HOUSEFOLK FOOD! AND MY STOMACH HURTS, IT'S SO EMPTY.
MAYBE IF I SNEAK IN...DON'T LET ANYBODY SEE ME... MAYBE I CAN FIND SOME SCRAP OF SOMETHING...
WHOOOO-HOOOO!!
DID YOU SEE THAT, THE WAY SHANNON HURLED?
AWESOME, MAN, PURE AWESOME!
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS? ALL THOSE HOUSEFOLK WERE SO LOUD!

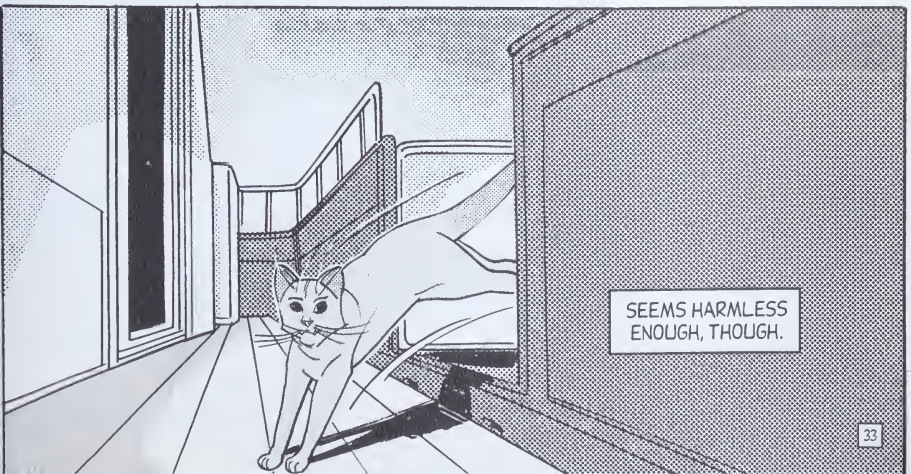

NIGHT COMES SOONER THAN I EXPECTED.
I CAN FEEL MY HOPE FADING ALONG WITH THE SUNLIGHT.
IT'S TIME TO ADMIT IT TO MYSELF. I'M NOT GOING TO FIND KEN.
EVER.
HIS THINGS WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN THERE WITH ALL THOSE OTHER HOUSEFOLK CLOTHES UNLESS...UNLESS HE'S...GONE.
BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR ME? I'M NOWHERE. I HAVE NOTHING.
I REALLY AM NOTHING.

I TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT, BUT...I CAN'T HELP IMAGINING THE SHADOWCLAN CATS RIGHT NOW.
SETTLING DOWN FOR THE NIGHT....WELL FED...
Captain Bandy's Full-day and Half-day Boat Cruises on the Dolly Blue
...ALL CURLED UP AND WARM. AM I EVER GOING TO HAVE ANY OF THAT AGAIN? WILL I EVER--
SNIFF
I SMELL FISH!


WELL...SO FAR, SO GOOD.

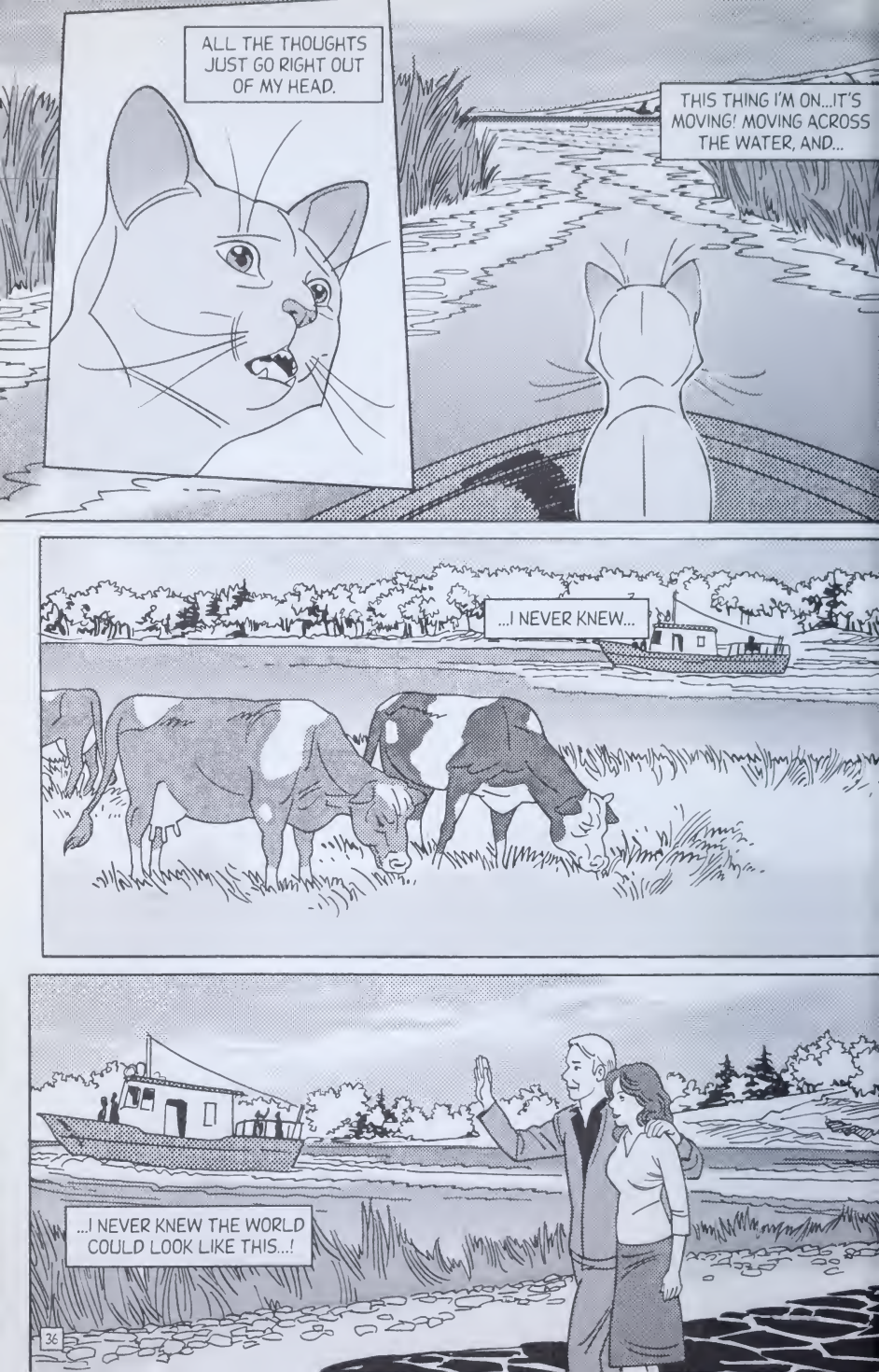

AT LEAST THERE AREN'T ANY OF THOSE CRAZY SCREAMING HOUSEFOLK AROUND HERE.


NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.


SEEMS HARMLESS ENOUGH, THOUGH.

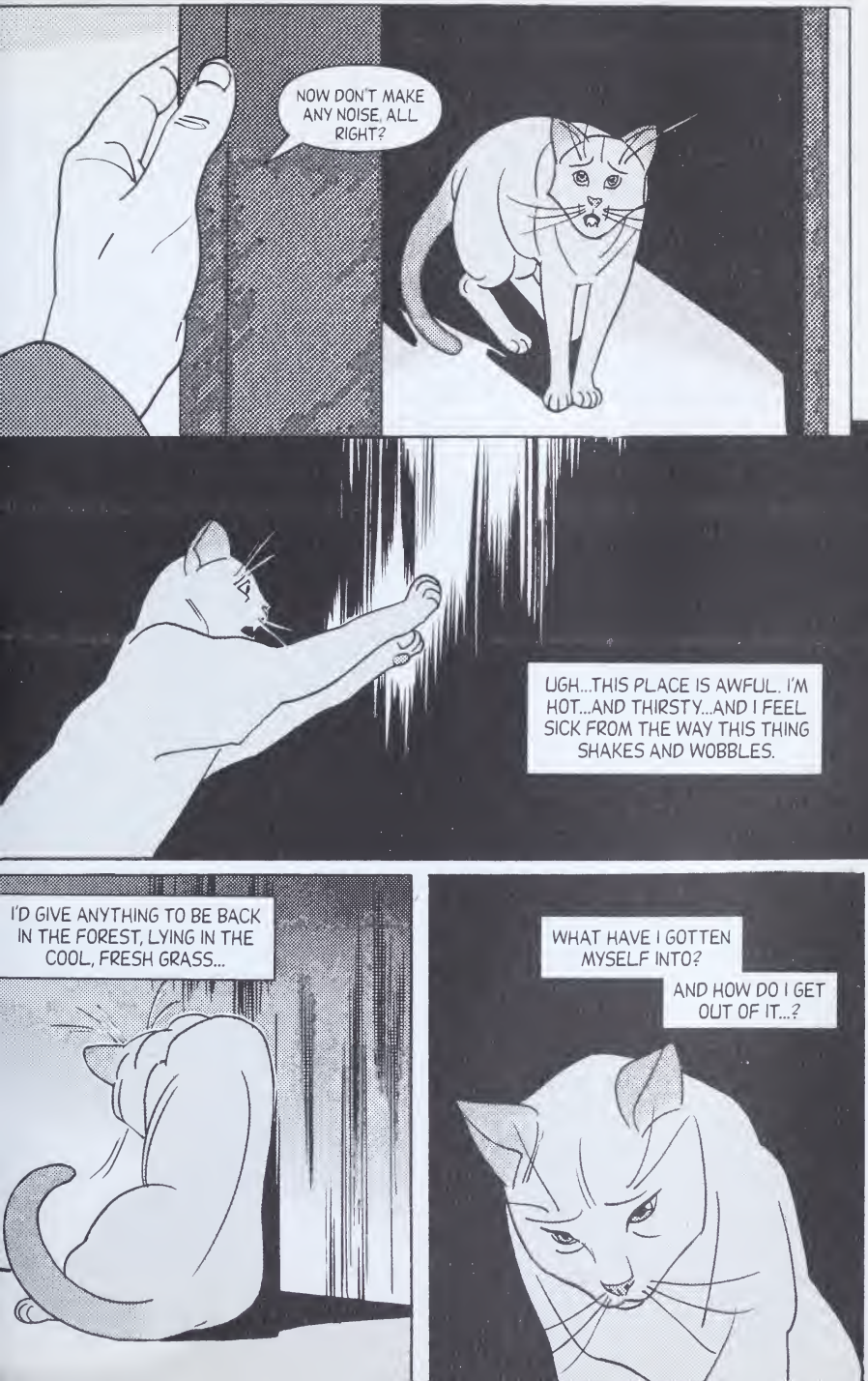
I THINK THERE MUST BE FISH IN THE WATER HERE...BUT THIS THING SMELLS LIKE FISH ALL ON ITS OWN.
AHA! NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
KEN FED ME SOME FISH LIKE THIS ONCE. IT'S AWFULLY GOOD.
WELL, MAYBE I CAN HAVE WHAT SHADOWCLAN HAS. I'M WELL FED NOW...
...TIME TO WORK ON GETTING WARM.

HUH? MORNING? I SLEPT HERE ALL NIGHT!
WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FLOOR? WHY'S IT SHAKING LIKE THIS?
I'D BETTER JUMP OFF THIS THING AND GET TO--
GET TO...

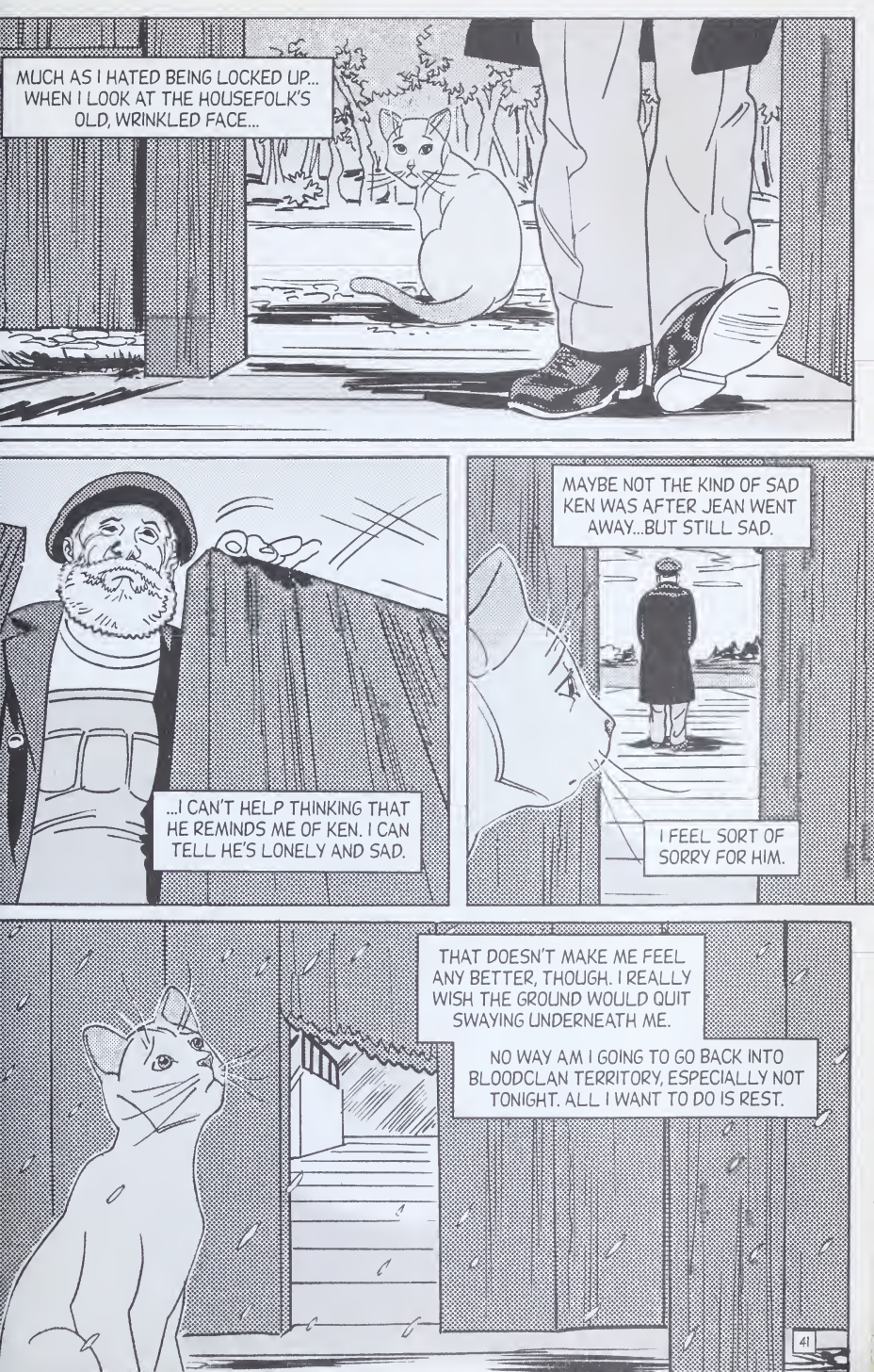

ALL THE THOUGHTS JUST GO RIGHT OUT OF MY HEAD.
THIS THING I'M ON...IT'S MOVING! MOVING ACROSS THE WATER, AND...
...I NEVER KNEW...
...I NEVER KNEW THE WORLD COULD LOOK LIKE THIS...!

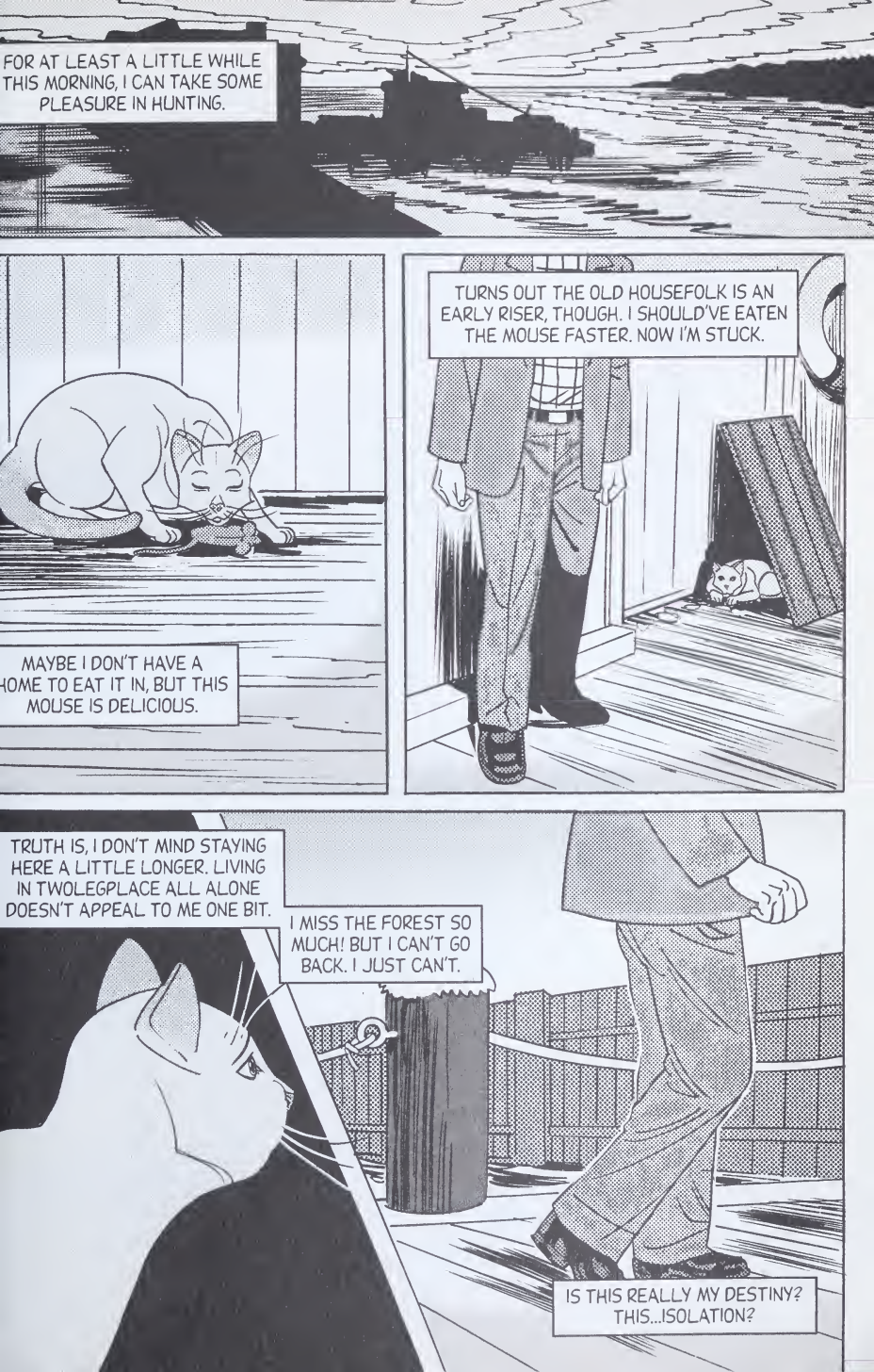
WHOA! CHECK IT OUT--IT'S A CAT!
THAT'S SO COOL!
IT'S A REAL LIVE SHIP'S CAT!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
DON'T KNOW WHO THIS TALL, OLD OUSEFOLK IS...
...BUT I KNOW IN A HEARTBEAT, HE'S THE ONE IN CHARGE HERE.

AND HE'S ANGRY! ANGRY AT ME! I'VE GOT TO GET OFF THIS THING, BUT...
BUT THERE'S NOWHERE TO GO!
SORRY, FOLKS. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
MEEP
IN YOU GO, KITTY. THAT'LL KEEP YOU OUT OF THE WAY 'TIL WE GET BACK TO THE DOCK.


NOW DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE, ALL RIGHT?
UGH...THIS PLACE IS AWFUL. I'M HOT...AND THIRSTY...AND I FEEL SICK FROM THE WAY THIS THING SHAKES AND WOBBLES.
I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO BE BACK IN THE FOREST, LYING IN THE COOL, FRESH GRASS...
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?
AND HOW DO I GET OUT OF IT...?

I HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG I'VE BEEN SHUT UP IN HERE...
...BUT WHEN THE HOUSEFOLK FINALLY OPENS THE DOOR, THE AIR IS THE SWEETEST I'VE EVER TASTED.
TIME TO GO NOW, KITTY CAT.
SHOO, NOW. GO ON.
YOU DON'T BELONG HERE.


MUCH AS I HATED BEING LOCKED UP... WHEN I LOOK AT THE HOUSEFOLK'S OLD, WRINKLED FACE...
...I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT HE REMINDS ME OF KEN. I CAN TELL HE'S LONELY AND SAD.
MAYBE NOT THE KIND OF SAD KEN WAS AFTER JEAN WENT AWAY...BUT STILL SAD.
I FEEL SORT OF SORRY FOR HIM.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL ANY BETTER, THOUGH. I REALLY WISH THE GROUND WOULD QUIT SWAYING UNDERNEATH ME.
NO WAY AM I GOING TO GO BACK INTO BLOODCLAN TERRITORY, ESPECIALLY NOT TONIGHT. ALL I WANT TO DO IS REST.


FOR AT LEAST A LITTLE WHILE THIS MORNING, I CAN TAKE SOME PLEASURE IN HUNTING.
MAYBE I DON'T HAVE A HOME TO EAT IT IN, BUT THIS MOUSE IS DELICIOUS.
TURNS OUT THE OLD HOUSEFOLK IS AN EARLY RISER, THOUGH. I SHOULD'VE EATEN THE MOUSE FASTER. NOW I'M STUCK.
TRUTH IS, I DON'T MIND STAYING HERE A LITTLE LONGER. LIVING IN TWOLEGPLACE ALL ALONE DOESN'T APPEAL TO ME ONE BIT.
I MISS THE FOREST SO MUCH! BUT I CAN'T GO BACK. I JUST CAN'T.
IS THIS REALLY MY DESTINY? THIS...ISOLATION?

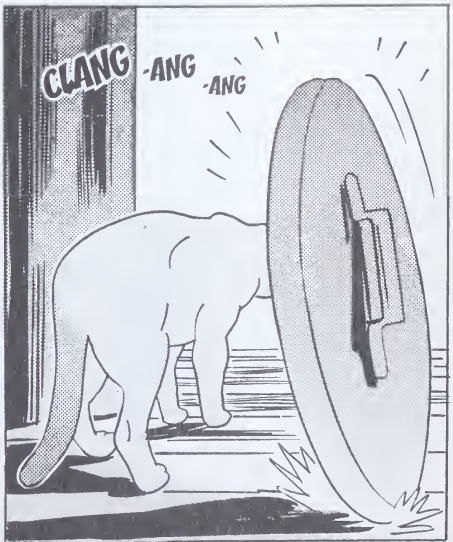
I DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND WHY...BUT AS THE MORNING GOES ON, I FIND MYSELF WATCHING THE OLD HOUSEFOLK.
MAYBE BECAUSE HE DOES MAKE ME THINK OF KEN. MAYBE BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO TWOLEGPLACE.
MAYBE BECAUSE...
...HE JUST LOOKS SO SAD.

I'M CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENED TO M. WHY IS HE SO SAD?
BUT A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP HAS GOTTEN RID OF THE SICK FEELING I HAD YESTERDAY...SO I'D BETTER GO AHEAD AND LEAVE.
THIS IS IT! THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE!
WELL, AS SOON AS THESE HOUSEFOLK LEAVE, ANYWAY.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, DARREL? IT DOESN'T LOOK VERY...I MEAN, IT'S A LITTLE BIT...
THE PLACE IS A DUMP, SON.
JUST STAY STILL...STAY QUIET...THEY'LL NEVER KNOW I'M HERE.
GOOD MORNING, GOOD MORNING! WELCOME TO CAPTAIN BANDY'S BOATYARD!

ARE YOU THE MAN WITH THE SHIP'S CAT?
UHH... BEG YOUR PARDON?
MY SON'S FRIEND HERE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR BOAT HAVING A CAT ON IT.
HE WOULDN'T REST UNTIL WE ALL CAME DOWN HERE TO SEE THE THING.
DARREL'S JUST MAD ABOUT PIRATES, YOU SEE. HE'D LOVE TO MEET A REAL SHIP'S CAT.

AH...THE, AH, THE CAT ISN'T HERE. THAT WAS A MISTAKE.
BUT MAYBE YOU'D LIKE A CRUISE ANYWAY...?
NOW THAT THEY'RE ALL TALKING TO EACH OTHER...

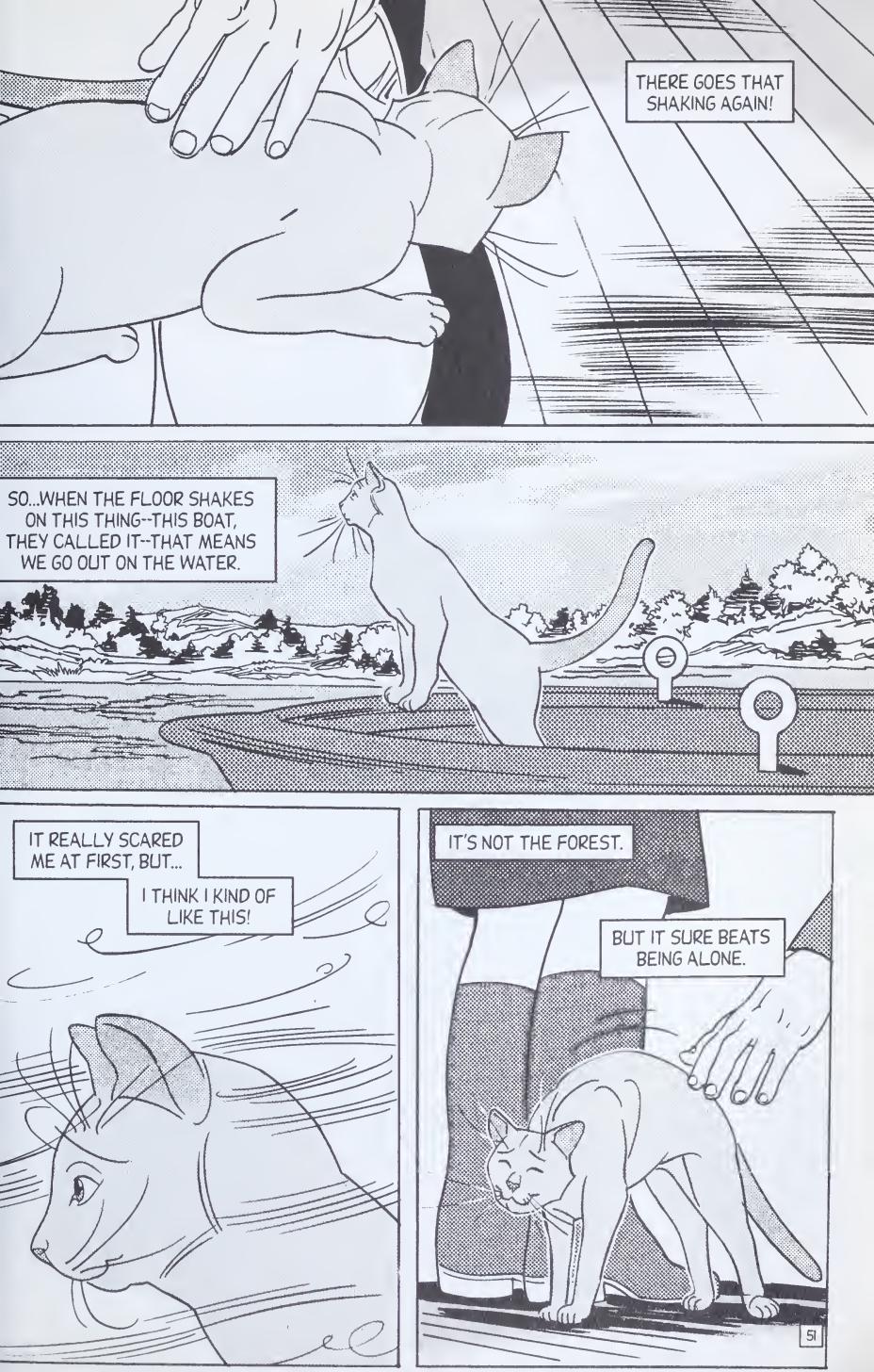
I CAN GET OUT WITHOUT ANYBODY SEEING M–


CLANG
-ANG
-ANG

KITTY!
UH-OH.
THERE'S THE SHIP'S CAT!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
AWWW, LISTEN TO HER MEOW!
PLEASE, CAN WE GO ON THE BOAT NOW?
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE?
WELL...YES, I SUPPOSE SO.
THIS IS YOUR CAT, RIGHT?

I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON HERE...
OH...YEAH...SHE'S MINE, ALL RIGHT. THAT'S MY CAT.
AREN'T YOU, BROWNIE?
...AND THIS HOUSEFOLK IS NO KEN. HE'S MUCH TOO CLUMSY.
BUT HIS HANDS ARE GENTLE.
MAYBE THIS WON'T BE TOO BAD.

IT IS KIND OF NICE TO HAVE A FUSS MADE OVER ME AGAIN.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND MUCH OF WHAT HOUSEFOLK MEAN WHEN THEY MAKE ALL THEIR NOISES. BUT I THINK I HEARD THIS ONE'S NAME.
I THINK IT'S THE CAPTAIN.
IT'S GOOD TO SEE HIM HAPPY.
I'M SO GLAD WE DECIDED TO TAKE THE TOUR!
YEAH! IF WE HADN'T SEEN PEOPLE GETTING ON BOARD, WE WOULDN'T HAVE REALIZED THE PLACE WAS EVEN OPEN!
HOW MUCH FOR A HALF DAY?


THERE GOES THAT SHAKING AGAIN!
SO...WHEN THE FLOOR SHAKES ON THIS THING--THIS BOAT, THEY CALLED IT--THAT MEANS WE GO OUT ON THE WATER.
IT REALLY SCARED ME AT FIRST, BUT...
I THINK I KIND OF LIKE THIS!
IT'S NOT THE FOREST.
BUT IT SURE BEATS BEING ALONE.

IT'S FUN, REALLY--SMELLING ALL THESE DIFFERENT SCENTS, FROM ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT PLACES.
I DO LIKE THIS BOAT...AS LONG AS I DON'T GET SHUT INSIDE THAT HOT, STUFFY PLACE AGAIN, ANYWAY.
I'M HAVING SUCH A GOOD TIME, WANDERING AROUND THROUGH ALL THESE HOUSEFOLK, THAT BEFORE I REALIZE IT...
...I'M RIGHT NEXT TO THE CAPTAIN.

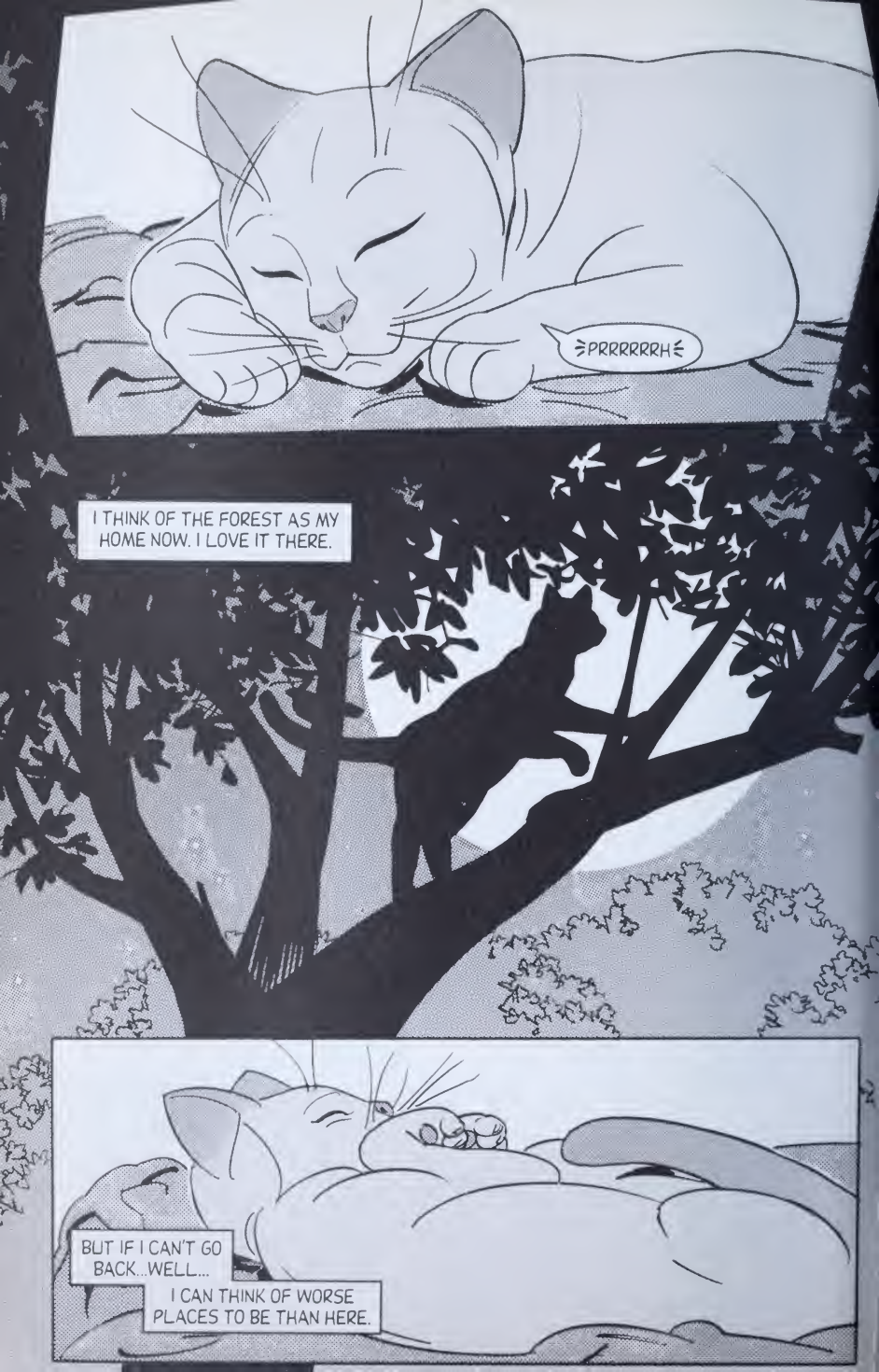
OH--DON'T PUT ME IN THE STUFFY PLACE!
WELL, HEY THERE, BROWNIE.
YOU ARE A CUTE ONE, AREN'T YOU?
WHO'D HAVE GUESSED A STOWAWAY WOULD BE SUCH A BIG ATTRACTION?
OOH, THAT'S NICE. AND I LIKE THE WAY HE SMELLS.
MAYBE YOU'LL BRING ME BETTER LUCK IF YOU STICK AROUND.
I GUESS IT'S OKAY TO STAY HERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

THESE HOUSEFOLK ARE SO NICE...NOT AT ALL LIKE THE ONES WHO YELLED AT ME.
THANK YOU, CAPTAIN. THE CRUISE WAS GREAT.
AND BROWNIE IS JUST THE BEST! SHE'S SO ADORABLE!
THANK YOU, THANK YOU. THANK YOU, COME AGAIN!
THEY REALLY LIKE THE CAPTAIN AND HIS BOAT...AND I THINK THAT'S PARTLY BECAUSE OF ME!
I HELPED HIM.
AND THAT MEANS I'M NOT NOTHING.
THAT'S RIGHT, TIGERSTAR. I'M *NOT* NOTHING.

BUT NOW THAT EVERYBODY'S GOING...I GUESS THAT MEANS I HAVE TO GO, TOO?
YEAH...THE CAPTAIN'S HEADING TO HIS DEN.
I'LL TRY NOT TO MAKE ANY NOISE WHEN I LEAVE THIS TIME.
WHICH WAY NOW? I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND MORE NICE HOUSEFOLK BACK TOWARD TWOLEGPLACE. MAYBE.
OR MAYBE I COULD FOLLOW THE WATER, TO WHERE I SAW THE TREES AND THOSE GIANT THINGS WITH HORNS.

BROWNIE!
HUH?
BROWWWWNIE!
C'MERE, GIRL! I'VE GOT SOME CHICKEN FOR YOU!
BROWNIE...THAT'S WHAT HE CALLS ME!
THERE YOU ARE.
RECKON YOU'VE EARNED THIS.
I HOPE YOU'LL STAY FOR A WHILE.
DOES THIS MEAN... THAT HE WANTS ME TO STAY?

GOT USED TO FINDING MY
WN FOOD IN THE FOREST.
VE COME TO PREFER IT.
BUT I'M NOT STUPID.
THERE YOU GO! THERE'S A GOOD GIRL..
C'MON... FOLLOW ME, THAT'S RIGHT.
HE'S BEING SO NICE! I JUST HOPE HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO STAY IN THAT LITTLE STUFFY PLACE AGAIN!
I SAW HOW MUCH YOU LIKED MY SWEATER. HERE, IT'S YOURS NOW.
OH, THANK GOODNESS.
IT'S WARM HERE... AND I FEEL SAFE...
...AND I'VE EVEN GOTTEN USED TO THE WAY THE BOAT SWAYS A LITTLE ON THE WATER.
I COULD GET USED TO THIS...


PRRRRRRH
I THINK OF THE FOREST AS MY HOME NOW. I LOVE IT THERE.
BUT IF I CAN'T GO BACK...WELL...
I CAN THINK OF WORSE PLACES TO BE THAN HERE.

I SORT OF LOSE TRACK OF THE DAYS FOR A WHILE.
THE CAPTAIN SEEMS HAPPY ALMOST ALL THE TIME NOW.
HOME OF BROWNIE
THE FAMOUS SHIP'S CAT
HE EVEN GOT NEW THINGS TO WEAR. HE STILL SMELLS THE SAME, THOUGH, AND I'M GLAD ABOUT THAT.
I CAN TELL THE CAPTAIN LIKES IT WHEN THERE ARE A LOT OF HOUSEFOLK HERE...
...AND THE HOUSEFOLK LIKE IT WHEN I'M HERE. IT'S NOT HARD TO PURR AND NUZZLE AND LET THEM PET ME.

MORE THAN ALL THE NICE HOUSEFOLK, THOUGH, I LOVE BEING ON THE BOAT!
I ONLY WISH THAT KEN AND JEAN COULD BE HERE WITH ME.
THE SUN RISES AND SETS...
STOWAWAY
...RISES AND SETS...

...AND ONE MORNING I REALIZE...
...I'M HAPPY.
BUT I'M BEGINNING TO LEARN THAT HAPPINESS DOESN'T LAST FOREVER.
I'M AFRAID I'VE BEEN FEEDING YOU TOO MANY SCRAPS, GIRL!
YOU'RE STARTING TO GET A LITTLE CHUNKY.

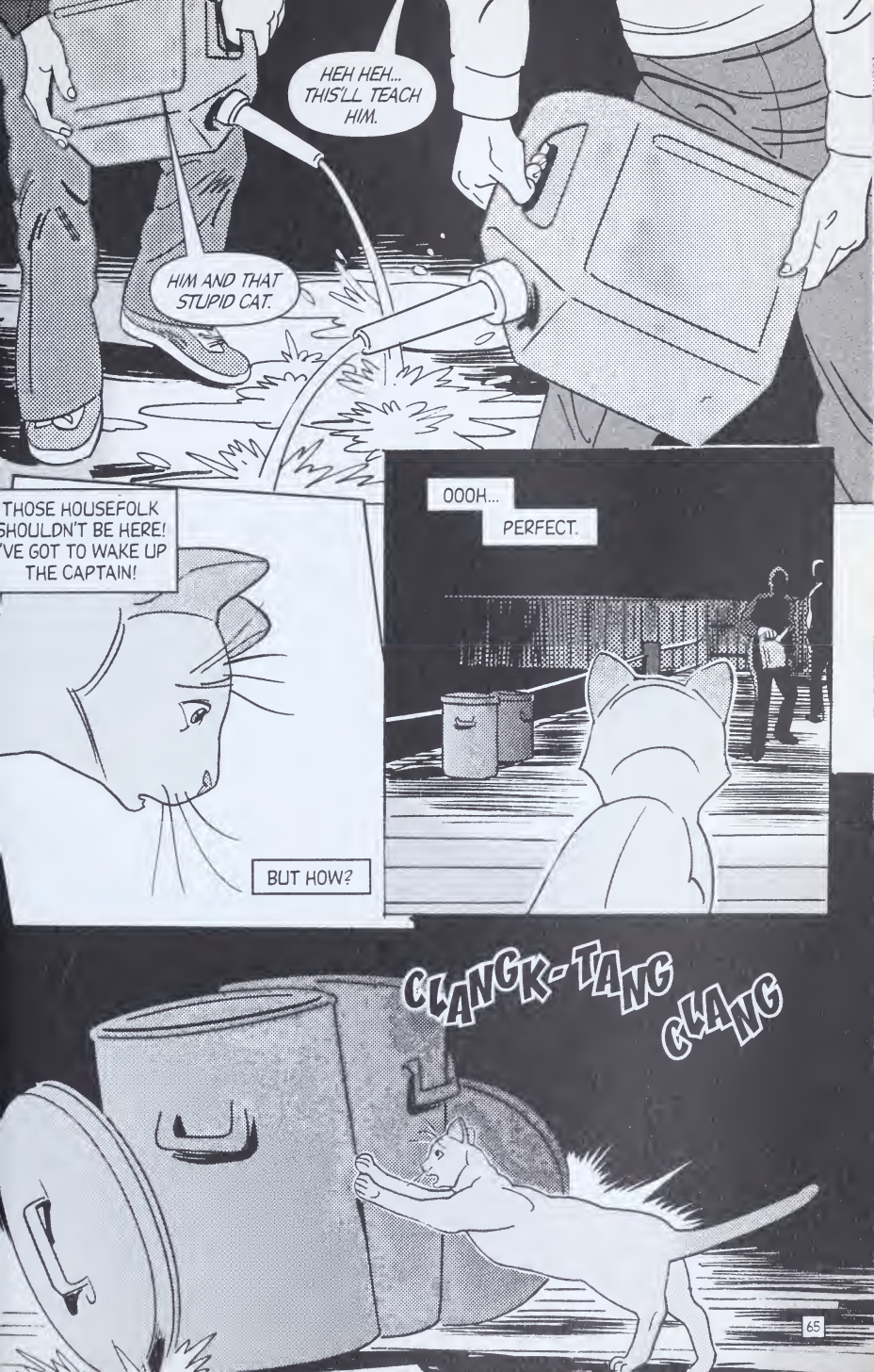
I LIKE IT WHEN THE CAPTAIN FEELS GOOD...
...AND SO WHEN SOMETHING MAKES HIM UNHAPPY, I NOTICE RIGHT AWAY.
GOOD-FER-NOTHIN', FLASHY, DISRESPECTFUL LITTLE... ≥GRUMBLE GRUMBLE≤
HE DOESN'T LIKE THE FLASHY BOAT. I WONDER WHY? MAYBE HE THINKS IT'S TOO LOUD?
SOMETIMES I WISH I COULD ASK HIM.

I'M WARM. I HAVE ALL THE FOOD I NEED. THE CAPTAIN LOVES ME.
BUT WHAT I CAN FEEL IN MY BELLY NOW JUST MAKES ME CERTAIN OF WHAT I KNEW ALL ALONG.
THE LIFE OF A KITTYPET IS NOT MY DESTINY.
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON?

TOO-RA-LOO... TOO-RA-LA-LA-LA-LOOO...

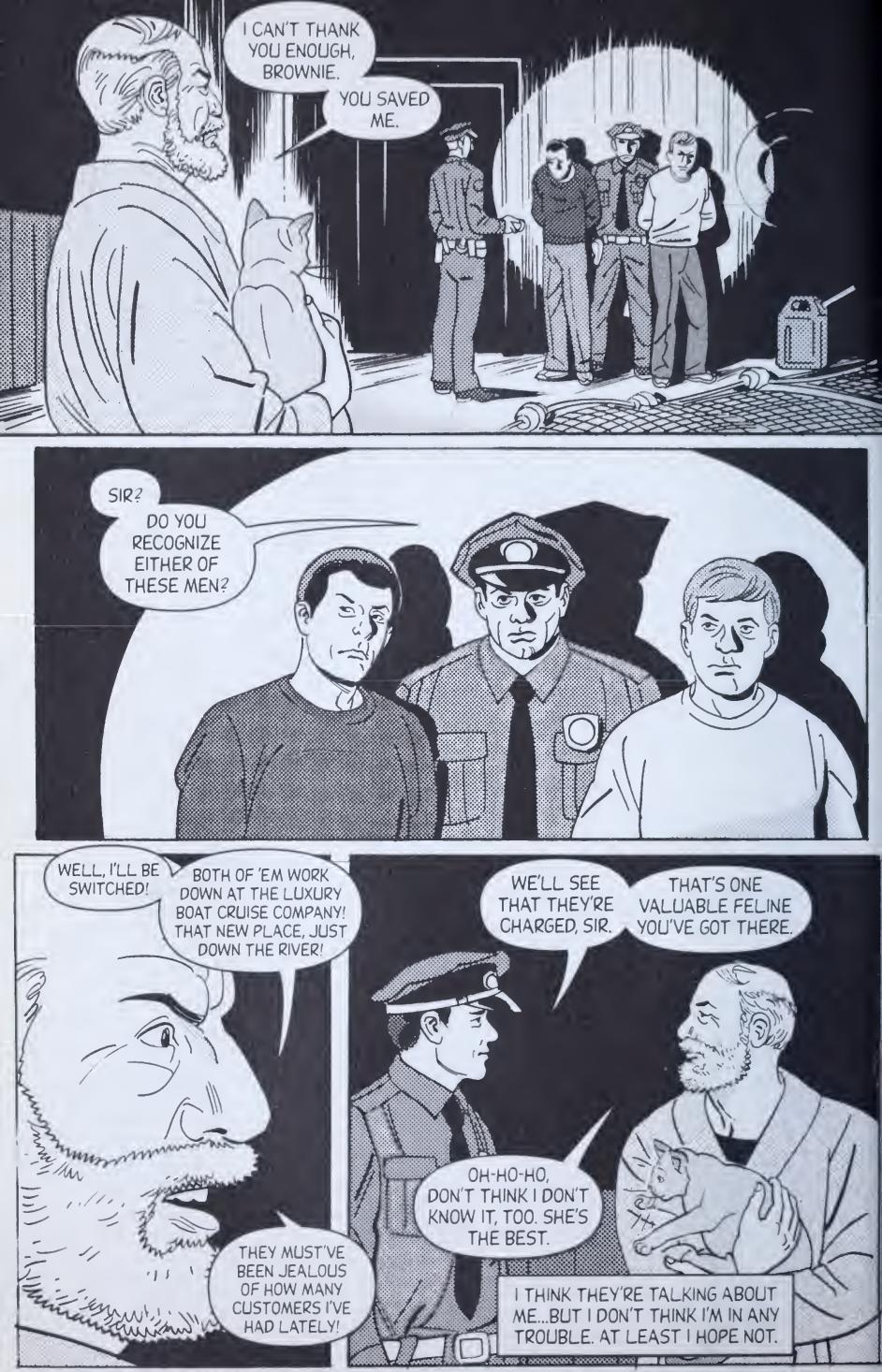
NO...NOT YET.
THE CAPTAIN NEEDS ME.

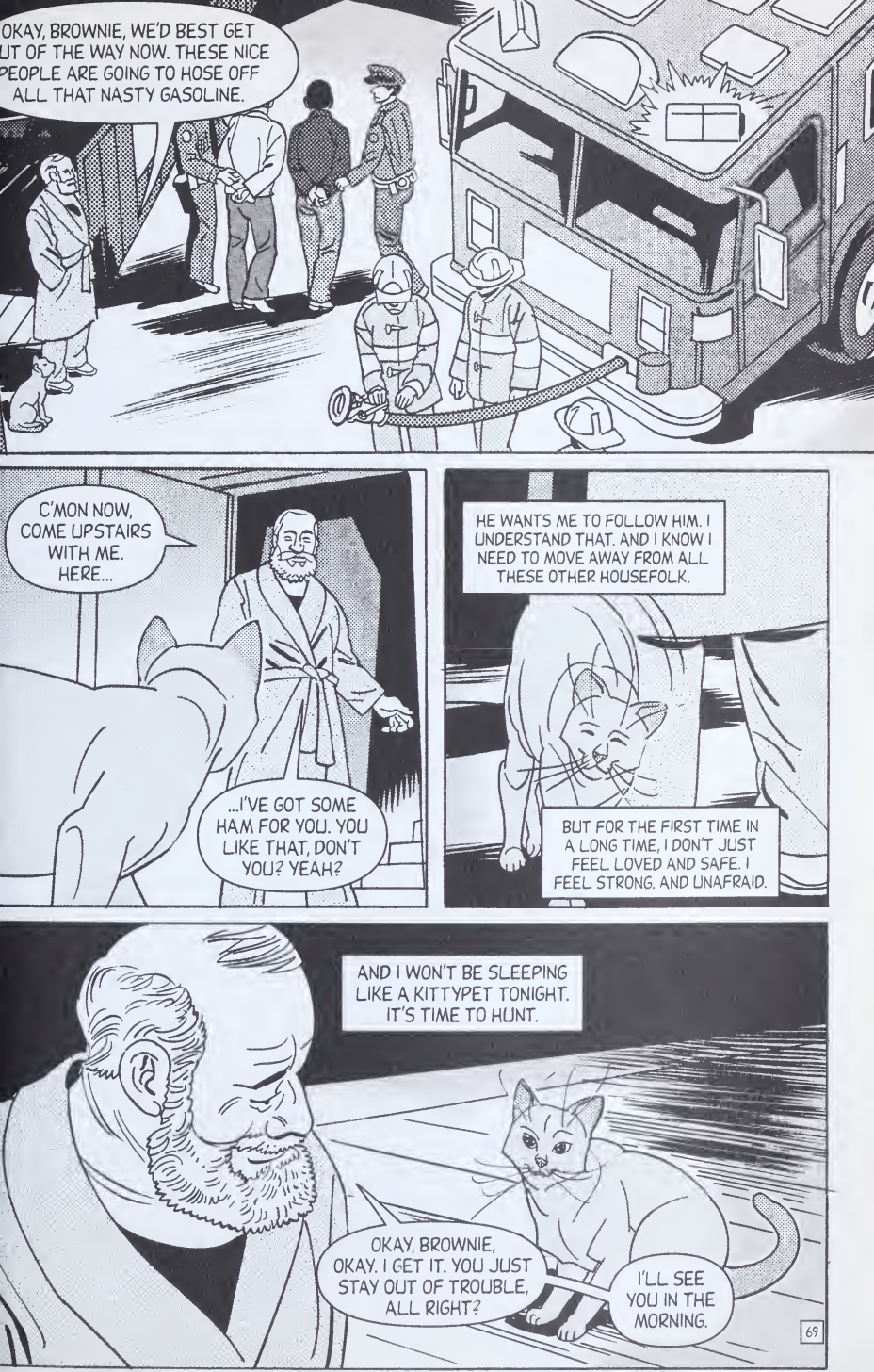
THUNKK-THUD
AND THEN A FEW NIGHTS LATER, I FIND OUT JUST HOW MUCH HE NEEDS ME.
WHAT WAS THAT...?
SHH! QUIET!
OKAY-- GET TO IT.


HEH HEH... THIS'LL TEACH HIM.
HIM AND THAT STUPID CAT.
THOSE HOUSEFOLK SHOULDN'T BE HERE! I'VE GOT TO WAKE UP THE CAPTAIN!
BUT HOW?
OOOH...
PERFECT.
CLANGK-TANG
CLANG

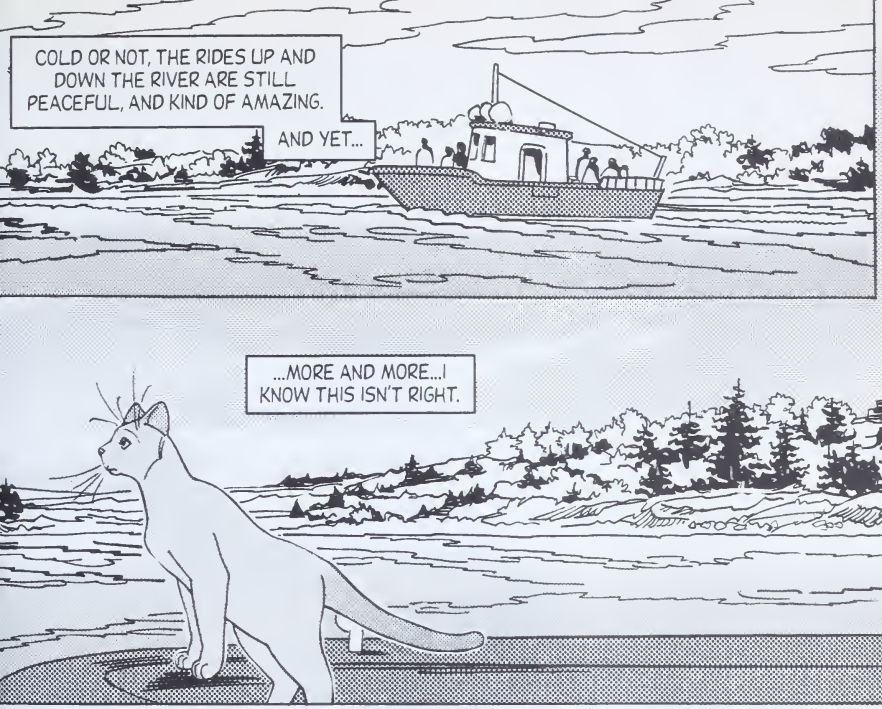
WHAT WAS THAT?
SOMEBODY SAW US!
RUN!
HRRK!
AOWW!
WHAT'S THIS? WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE?
BROWNIE? IS THAT YOU?

GASOLINE...?
HOW DARE YOU!
YOU COWARDLY CURS!
KEEP AN EYE ON 'EM, BROWNIE!
I'M CALLIN' THE COPS!
AS USUAL, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE CAPTAIN MEANS. BUT THESE TWO TRIED TO HURT HIM, I'M PRETTY SURE OF THAT.
SO THEY'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

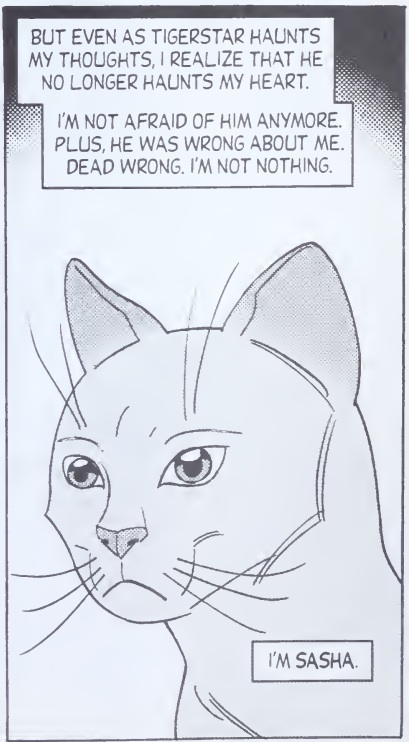

I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, BROWNIE.
YOU SAVED ME.
SIR?
DO YOU RECOGNIZE EITHER OF THESE MEN?
WELL, I'LL BE SWITCHED!
BOTH OF 'EM WORK DOWN AT THE LUXURY BOAT CRUISE COMPANY! THAT NEW PLACE, JUST DOWN THE RIVER!
THEY MUST'VE BEEN JEALOUS OF HOW MANY CUSTOMERS I'VE HAD LATELY!
WE'LL SEE THAT THEY'RE CHARGED, SIR.
THAT'S ONE VALUABLE FELINE YOU'VE GOT THERE.
OH-HO-HO, DON'T THINK I DON'T KNOW IT, TOO. SHE'S THE BEST.
I THINK THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ME...BUT I DON'T THINK I'M IN ANY TROUBLE. AT LEAST I HOPE NOT.

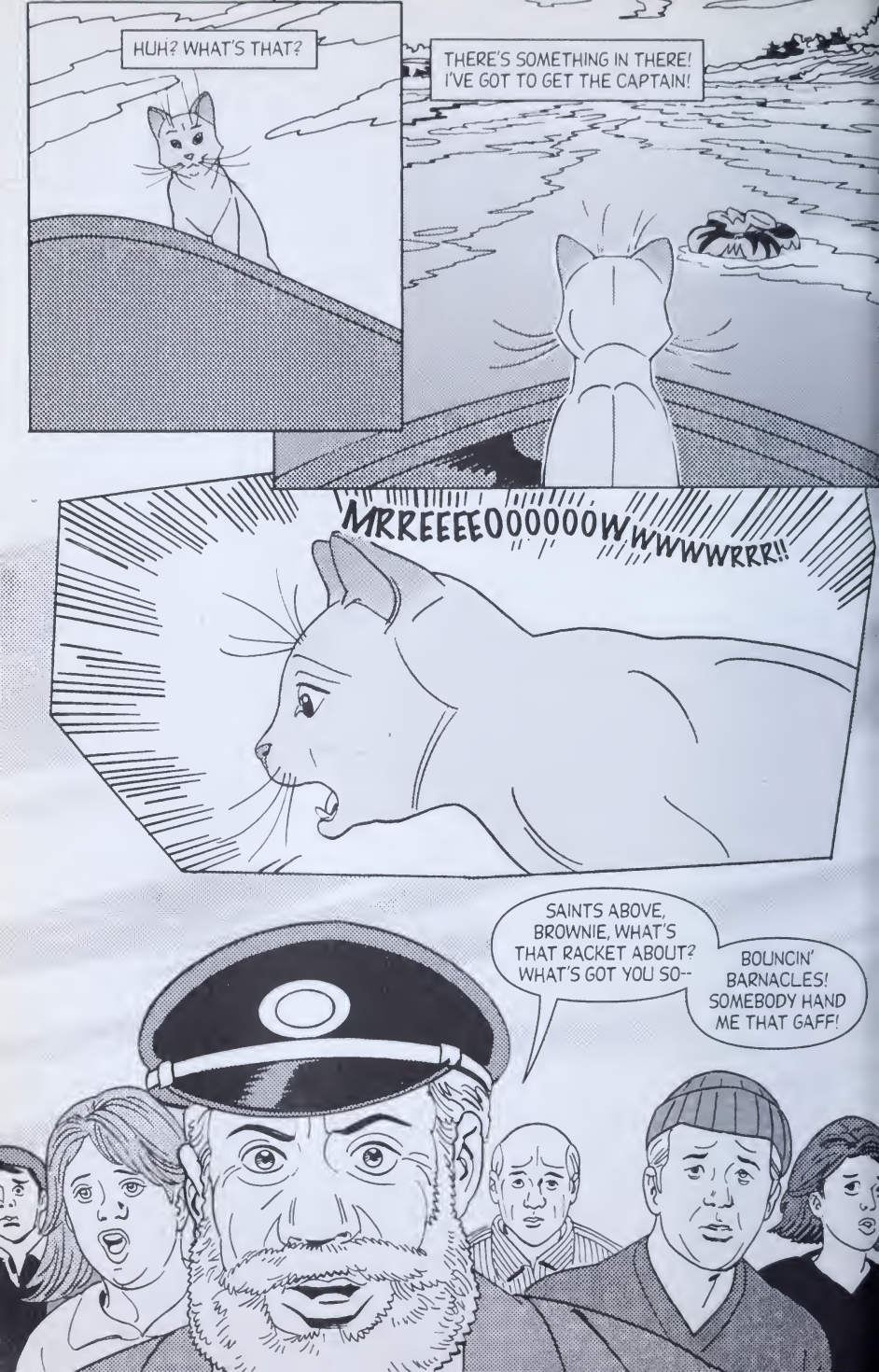

OKAY, BROWNIE, WE'D BEST GET UT OF THE WAY NOW. THESE NICE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO HOSE OFF ALL THAT NASTY GASOLINE.
C'MON NOW, COME UPSTAIRS WITH ME. HERE...
...I'VE GOT SOME HAM FOR YOU. YOU LIKE THAT, DON'T YOU? YEAH?
HE WANTS ME TO FOLLOW HIM. I UNDERSTAND THAT. AND I KNOW I NEED TO MOVE AWAY FROM ALL THESE OTHER HOUSEFOLK.
BUT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME, I DON'T JUST FEEL LOVED AND SAFE. I FEEL STRONG. AND UNAFRAID.
AND I WON'T BE SLEEPING LIKE A KITTYPET TONIGHT. IT'S TIME TO HUNT.
OKAY, BROWNIE, OKAY. I GET IT. YOU JUST STAY OUT OF TROUBLE, ALL RIGHT?
I'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING.

I DON'T KNOW WHO THE NEW HOUSEFOLK IS WHO SHOWS UP THE NEXT DAY, BUT THE CAPTAIN SEEMS AWFULLY PLEASED.
SO IT CAN'T BE A BAD THING, I GUESS.
THIS IS SUCH AN AMAZING STORY! BROWNIE, THE HERO CAT!
YEAH...I KNEW SHE'D BRING ME LUCK!
WHATEVER IT WAS THAT NEW HOUSEFOLK DID...
HERO CAT SAVES BUSINESS
...THE CAPTAIN'S BUSIER THAN EVER NOW. HE RUNS HIS BOAT MORE THAN USUAL, EVEN THOUGH IT'S GETTING COLDER.

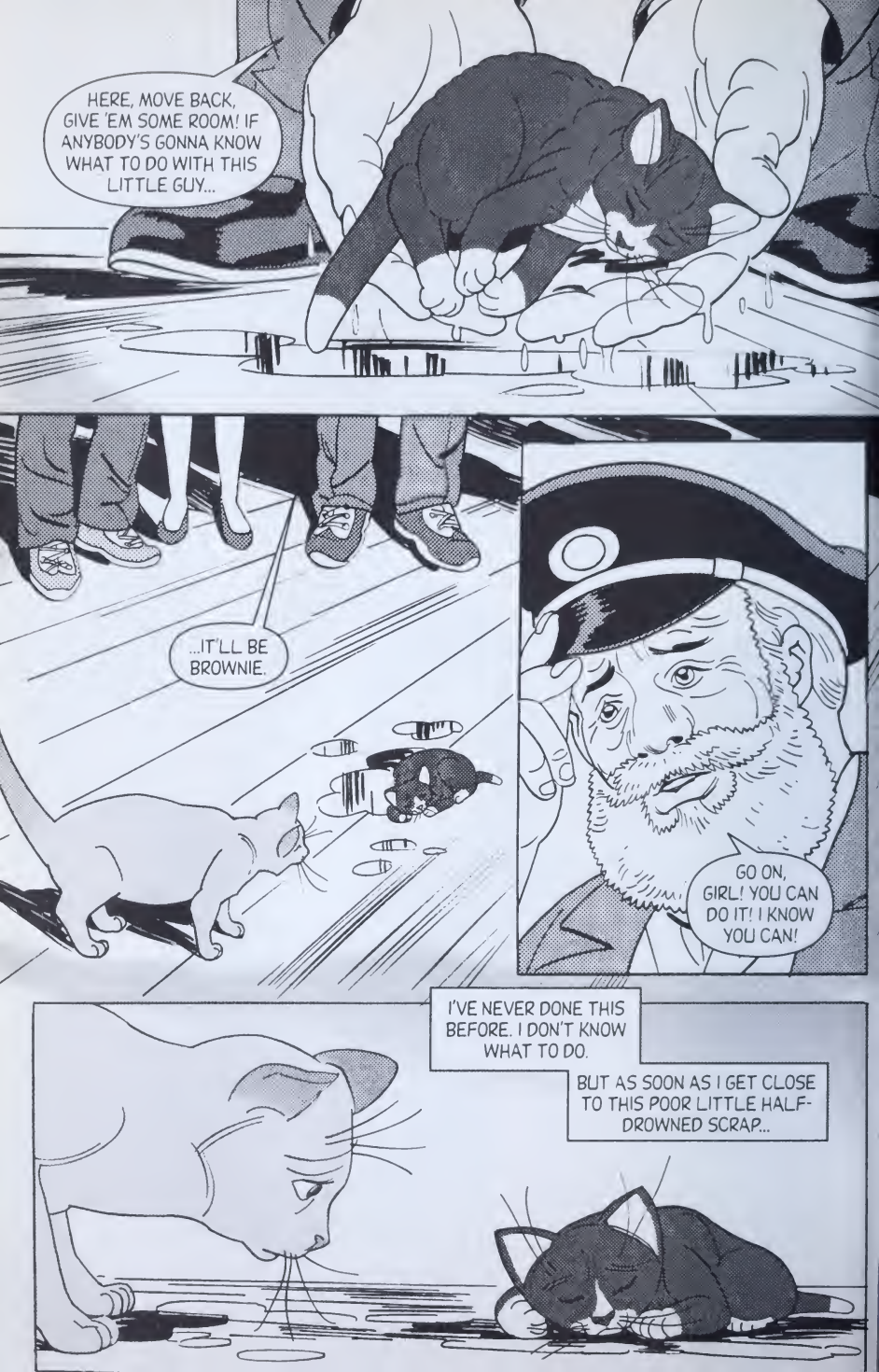

COLD OR NOT, THE RIDES UP AND DOWN THE RIVER ARE STILL PEACEFUL, AND KIND OF AMAZING.
AND YET...
...MORE AND MORE...I KNOW THIS ISN'T RIGHT.

ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF WHAT'S COMING.


BUT EVEN AS TIGERSTAR HAUNTS MY THOUGHTS, I REALIZE THAT HE NO LONGER HAUNTS MY HEART.
I'M NOT AFRAID OF HIM ANYMORE. PLUS, HE WAS WRONG ABOUT ME. DEAD WRONG. I'M NOT NOTHING.
I'M SASHA.


HUH? WHAT'S THAT?
THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE! I'VE GOT TO GET THE CAPTAIN!
MRREEEEOOOOOOWWWWWRRR!!
SAINTS ABOVE, BROWNIE, WHAT'S THAT RACKET ABOUT? WHAT'S GOT YOU SO--
BOUNCIN' BARNACLES! SOMEBODY HAND ME THAT GAFF!

I ALREADY KNOW WHAT'S IN THE SACK. I THINK I KNEW THE MOMENT I SAW IT UNDER THE WATER.
I JUST DON'T KNOW IF IT'S TOO LATE OR NOT. I HOPE NOT. I HOPE NOT.
OOOH, THAT POOR LITTLE KITTY! IS IT ALIVE?
I THINK SO. BUT JUST BARELY.

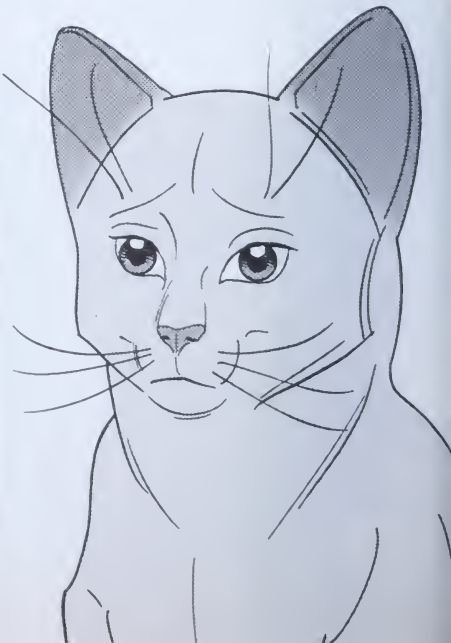

HERE, MOVE BACK, GIVE 'EM SOME ROOM! IF ANYBODY'S GONNA KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THIS LITTLE GUY...
...IT'LL BE BROWNIE.
GO ON, GIRL! YOU CAN DO IT! I KNOW YOU CAN!
I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
BUT AS SOON AS I GET CLOSE TO THIS POOR LITTLE HALF-DROWNED SCRAP...

I FIND THAT I DO KNOW WHAT TO DO. IT JUST COMES NATURALLY. AND CONSIDERING WHAT THE NEAR FUTURE HOLDS FOR ME...
...I'M MORE RELIEVED THAN I CAN SAY.
WH...WHERE AM I?
YOU'RE ON A BOAT. DON'T WORRY, LITTLE ONE.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW.

THERE, THERE... YOU JUST RELAX... I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU.
WHO'D'A EVER THOUGHT I'D TURN OUT TO BE A CAT PERSON?
THE CAPTAIN AND THE LITTLE ONE HAVE ALREADY BONDED. THAT'S PLAIN TO SEE.
IT MAKES ME HAPPY. I WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED TO TRY TO CARE FOR HIM ALL BY MYSELF.
GALLEY
HERE WE ARE, CHILDREN.
HOME SWEET HOME.

I THINK I'LL CALL HIM "PATCH." WHAT DO YOU THINK, BROWNIE?
IS PATCH A GOOD NAME?
THE CAPTAIN KEEPS MAKING A NEW SOUND. PATCH? IS THAT WHAT HE'S CALLING THE LITTLE ONE?
IF IT IS...I LIKE IT.
PATCH.
WOW...THIS PLACE IS AWESOME!
HE'S SO CUTE...AND THE CAPTAIN OBVIOUSLY PLANS TO KEEP HIM. IT'S RIGHT THEN THAT I REALIZE...
...PATCH'S ARRIVAL IS ANOTHER SIGNAL THAT THINGS ARE ABOUT TO CHANGE.

AT LEAST WHEN I HAVE TO LEAVE, THE CAPTAIN WON'T BE ALONE.



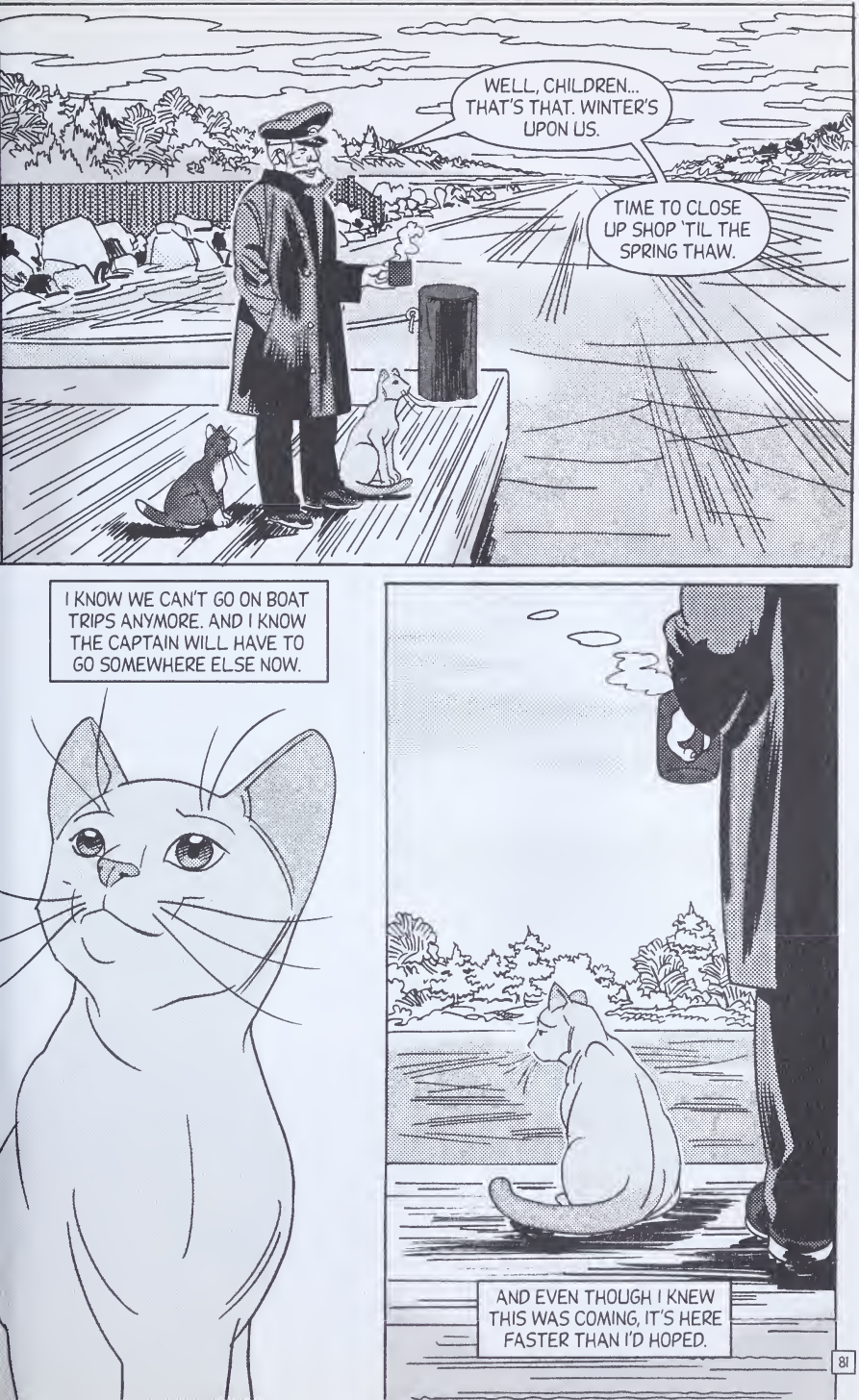
THE TINY LIVES INSIDE ME...PATCH'S ARRIVAL...

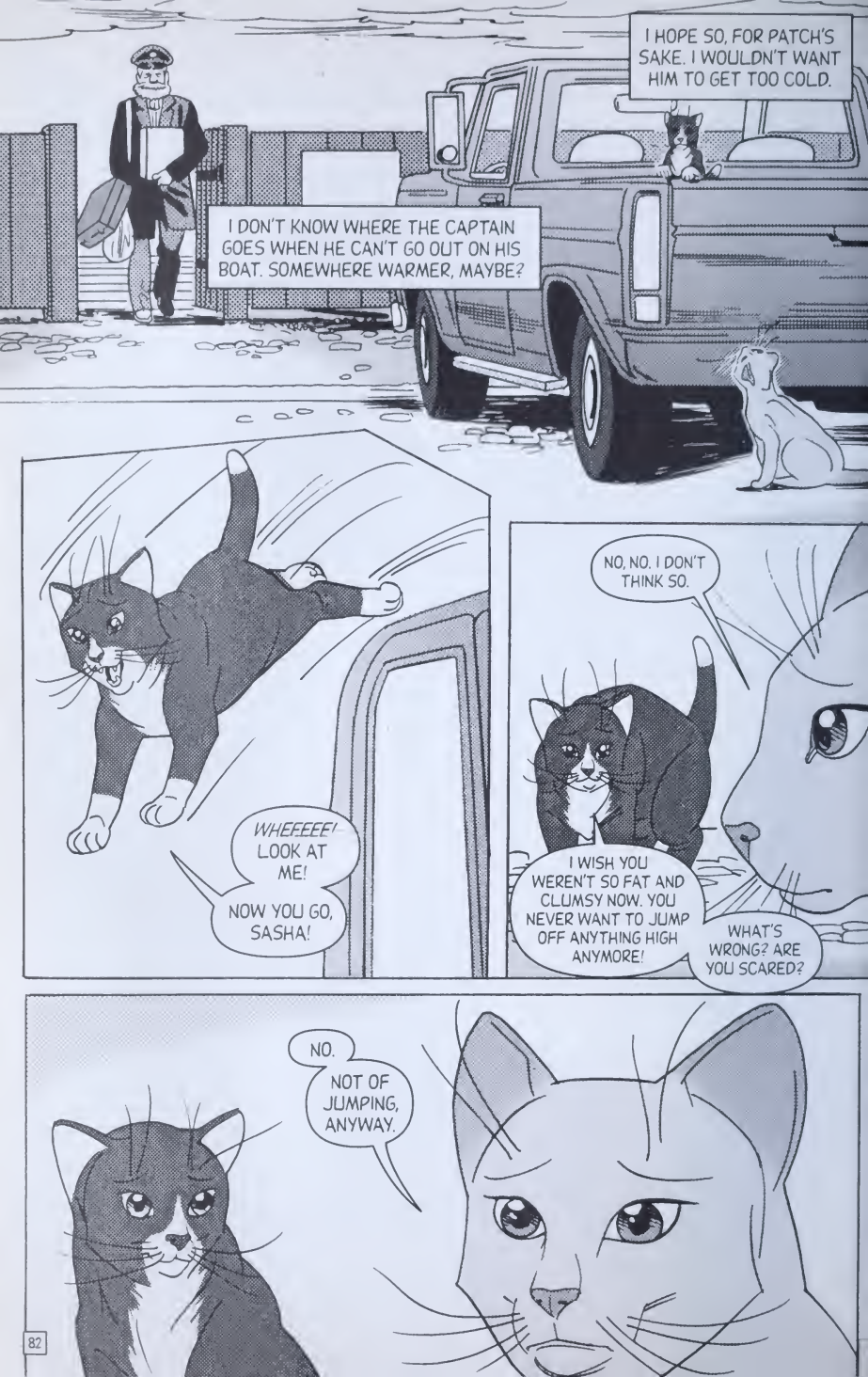
...THEY WERE LEADING UP TO ONE LAST BIG CHANGE...

...A CHANGE THAT ARRIVES ONE COLD, COLD MORNING.

SASHA!
THE RIVER'S SOLID!

I'VE ONLY HEARD ABOUT THIS. I'VE NEVER SEEN IT. IT'S A LITTLE HARD TO BELIEVE, UNTIL I DO SEE IT.
BUT THERE IT IS. THE WHOLE RIVER HAS FROZEN OVER.
WAAA-HAAAA!
IT'S NOT SOLID, THOUGH. THERE'S STILL FRIGID WATER UNDERNEATH. I CAN SMELL IT...
AND I CAN HEAR THE CREAKING AS WEIGHT SHIFTS ON IT.
PATCH!
PATCH, IT'S NOT SAFE OUT THERE! COME BACK TO THE SHORE!
O-OKAY, SASHA...I'M COMING...


WELL, CHILDREN... THAT'S THAT. WINTER'S UPON US.
TIME TO CLOSE UP SHOP 'TIL THE SPRING THAW.
I KNOW WE CAN'T GO ON BOAT TRIPS ANYMORE. AND I KNOW THE CAPTAIN WILL HAVE TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE NOW.
AND EVEN THOUGH I KNEW THIS WAS COMING, IT'S HERE FASTER THAN I'D HOPED.


I HOPE SO, FOR PATCH'S SAKE. I WOULDN'T WANT HIM TO GET TOO COLD.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE CAPTAIN GOES WHEN HE CAN'T GO OUT ON HIS BOAT. SOMEWHERE WARMER, MAYBE?
WHEEEEE! LOOK AT ME!
NOW YOU GO, SASHA!
NO, NO. I DON'T THINK SO.
I WISH YOU WEREN'T SO FAT AND CLUMSY NOW. YOU NEVER WANT TO JUMP OFF ANYTHING HIGH ANYMORE!
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU SCARED?
NO.
NOT OF JUMPING, ANYWAY.

BROWNIE! PATCH!
TIME TO GO!
WHERE ARE WE GOING, ANYWAY?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT IT WILL BE AN EXCITING NEW ADVENTURE, WHATEVER HAPPENS.
I CAN'T WAIT! I BET THERE'LL BE A LOT OF STUFF TO CLIMB!
WELL, COME ON, SASHA!
YOU'RE NOT AFRAID TO JUMP UP, ARE YOU?
PATCH...I'M NOT GOING.

WHAT?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE, I PROMISE YOU. YOU'LL HAVE THE CAPTAIN TO LOOK AFTER YOU...
AND YOU NEED TO LOOK AFTER HIM, TOO.
YOU REALLY MEAN IT? YOU'RE NOT COMING WITH US?
I CAN'T. I'M SORRY, LITTLE ONE.
BROWNIE?
AREN'T YOU JOINING US?

WELL...I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WERE A WANDERER, GIRL.
YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, ALL RIGHT?
HE UNDERSTANDS. I CAN TELL.
THIS IS THE RIGHT DECISION. I KNOW IT.
I JUST WISH IT DIDN'T HURT SO MUCH.

SNOW.
SOMETHING ELSE I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
I'VE BEEN HAPPY WITH THE CAPTAIN AND PATCH...BUT MY KITS WILL BE BORN SOON.
AND I WANT TO RAISE THEM IN THE WOODS. WITH TREES AND PREY AND FREEDOM.
THE CAPTAIN IS GOOD AND SWEET... BUT HE MIGHT NOT BE AROUND FOREVER. LIKE KEN AND JEAN.
I CAN'T RELY ON HOUSEFOLK. OR ON OTHER CATS. I HAVE TO BE ABLE TO SURVIVE ON MY OWN.
I JUST HOPE MY KITS WILL UNDERSTAND.
To Be Continued...

ERIN HUNTER

is inspired by a love of cats and a fascination with the ferocity of the natural world. As well as having great respect for nature in all its forms, Erin enjoys creating rich mythical explanations for animal behavior. She is also the author of the Seekers series.

Visit the Clans online
and play Warriors games at
www.warriorcats.com.

For exclusive information on your
favorite authors and artists, visit
www.authortracker.com.

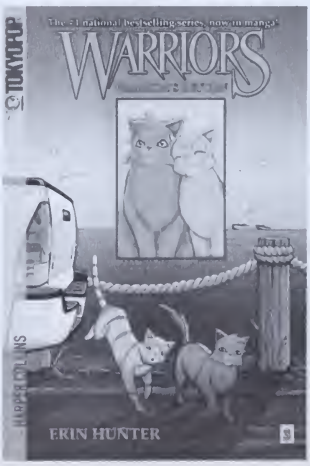
TOKYOPOP
The #1 national bestselling series, now in manga!
WARRIORS
TIGERSTAR & SASHA
RETURN TO THE CLANS
HARPER COLLINS
ERIN HUNTER
3

KEEP WATCH FOR

Sasha has gone back to the forest to raise her kits, Moth, Hawk, and Tadpole. She thinks she's a safe distance from ShadowClan's prying eyes, but Tigerstar still haunts her dreams, and Sasha fears that he will soon discover the existence of his kits. As leaf-bare stretches on, and Sasha finds it harder to feed her family, she wonders if her kits might be better off as warriors, with a Clan to protect and train them. But where does Sasha belong?

TOKYOPOP
WARRIORS
ERIN HUNTER
1
HARPER COLLINS

TOKYOPOP
WARRIORS
ERIN HUNTER
2
HARPER COLLINS


TOKYOPOP
WARRIORS
ERIN HUNTER
3
HARPER COLLINS

DON'T MISS THE
FIRST MANGA TRILOGY

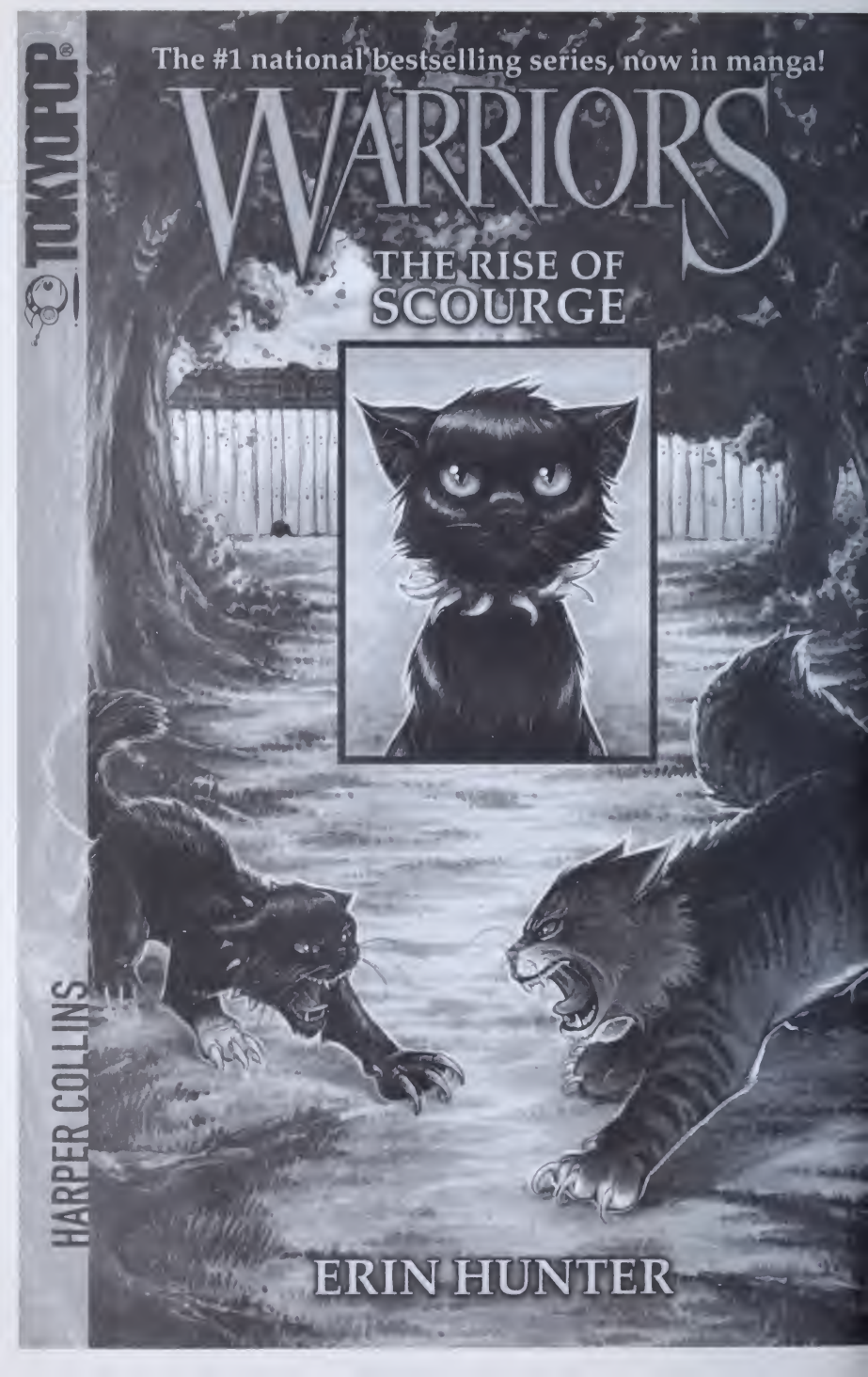
WARRIORS

THE LOST WARRIOR

WARRIOR'S REFUGE

WARRIOR'S RETURN

Find out what really happened to Graystripe when he was captured by Twolegs, and follow him and Millie on their torturous journey through the old forest territory and Twolegplace as they search for ThunderClan.


TOKYOPOP
The #1 national bestselling series, now in manga!
WARRIORS
THE RISE OF SCOURGE
HARPER COLLINS
ERIN HUNTER

NO WARRIORS MANGA
COLLECTION IS
COMPLETE WITHOUT:

WARRIORS

THE RISE OF SCOURGE

Black-and-white Tiny may be the runt of the litter, but he's also the most curious about what lies beyond the backyard fence. When he crosses paths with some wild cats defending their territory, Tiny is left with scars—and a bitter, deep-seated grudge—that he carries with him back to Twolegplace. As his reputation grows among the strays and loners that live in the dirty brick alleyways, Tiny leaves behind his name, his kittypet past, and everything that was once important to him—except his deadly desire for revenge.

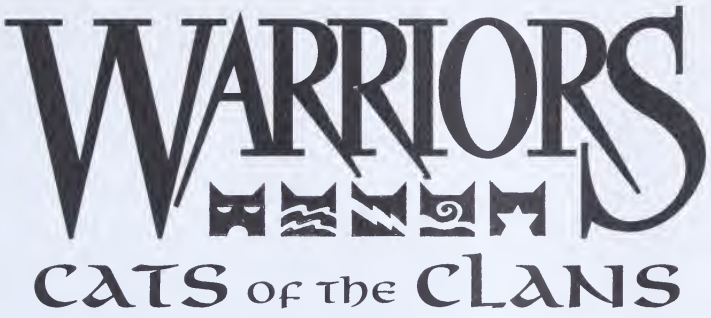
WARRIORS

CATS OF THE CLANS

ERIN HUNTER

ILLUSTRATED BY WAYNE McLOUGHLIN

MEET THE CLANS' HEROES IN



CATS of the CLANS

Hear the stories of the great warriors as they've never been told before! Chock-full of visual treats and captivating details, including full-color illustrations and in-depth biographies of important cats from all four Clans, from fierce Clan leaders to wise medicine cats to the most mischievous kits.

THE #1 NATIONAL BESTSELLING SERIES

POWER OF THREE

WARRIORS

LONG SHADOWS

ERIN HUNTER

POWER OF THREE

WARRIORS

BOOK 5:

LONG SHADOWS

TURN THE PAGE FOR A PEEK AT THE NEXT WARRIORS NOVEL, *WARRIORS: POWER OF THREE #5: LONG SHADOWS.*

Blackstar has declared that ShadowClan will no longer follow StarClan, which throws the rest of the Clans into turmoil. Should they, too, abandon the warrior code? Jaypaw believes that their ancestors still have a place in the cats' lives, but there are questions that can't be answered by StarClan alone. Determined to discover the truth about the cats' history, Jaypaw finds he must look deep into events long-buried in time, farther back than even StarClan can remember. . . .

CHAPTER 1

The moon was huge, a golden circle resting on a dark ridge of hills. Stars blazed above Hollyleaf's head, reminding her that the spirits of her ancestors were watching over her. Her fur prickled as something stirred on the ridge. A cat had appeared there, outlined against the moon. She recognized the broad head and tufted ears, and the tail with its bushy tip; even though the shape was black against the light, she knew the colors of its pelt: white with brown, black, and ginger blotches.

"Sol!" she hissed.

The outlined shape arched its back, then reared up on its hind paws, its forepaws stretched out as if it was about to rake its claws across the sky. It leaped upward, and as it leaped it swelled until it was so huge that it blotted out the moon and the blazing stars. Hollyleaf crouched, shivering, in darkness thicker than the deepest places of the forest.

Screeches of alarm rose up around her, a whole Clan of hidden cats wailing their fear of the shadow cutting

them off from the protective gaze of StarClan. Above the noise, a single voice rang out: "Hollyleaf! Hollyleaf! Come out!"

Hollyleaf thrashed in terror and found her paws tangled in soft moss and bracken. Pale gray light was filtering through the branches of the warriors' den. A couple of foxlengths away, Hazeltail was scrambling out of her nest, shaking scraps of moss from her pelt.

"Hollyleaf!" The call came again, and this time Hollyleaf recognized Birchfall's voice, meowing irritably outside the den. "Are you going to sleep all day? We're supposed to be hunting."

"Coming." Groggy with sleep, every hair on her pelt still quivering from her nightmare, Hollyleaf headed toward the nearest gap between the branches. Before she reached it, her paws stumbled over the haunches of a sleeping cat, half hidden under the bracken.

Cloudtail's head popped up. "Great StarClan!" he grumbled. "Can't a cat get any sleep around here?"

"S-sorry," Hollyleaf stammered, remembering that Cloudtail had been out on a late patrol the night before; she had seen him return to camp with Dustpelt and Sorreltail while she was keeping her warrior's vigil.

Just my luck. My first day, and I manage to annoy one of the senior warriors!

Cloudtail snorted and curled up again, his blue eyes closing as he buried his nose in his fur.

"It's okay," Hazeltail murmured, brushing her muzzle

against Hollyleaf's shoulder. "Cloudtail's mew is worse than his scratch. And don't let Birchfall ruffle your fur. He's bossy with the new warriors, but you'll soon get used to it."

Hollyleaf nodded gratefully, though she didn't tell Hazeltail the real reason she was thrown off balance. Birchfall didn't bother her; it was the memory of the dream that throbbed through her from ears to tail-tip, making her paws clumsy and her thoughts troubled.

Her gaze drifted to the nest where her brother Lionpaw—no, Lion*blaze* now—had curled up at the end of his vigil. She wanted to talk to him more than anything. But the nest was empty; Lionblaze must have gone out on the dawn patrol.

Careful where she put her paws, Hollyleaf pushed her way out of the den behind Hazeltail. Outside, Birchfall was scraping the ground impatiently.

"At last!" he snapped. "What kept you?"

"Take it easy, Birchfall." Brambleclaw, the ThunderClan deputy and Hollyleaf's father, was sitting a tail-length away with his tail wrapped neatly around his paws. His amber eyes were calm. "The prey won't run away."

"Not till they see us, anyway," Sandstorm added as she bounded across from the fresh-kill pile.

"If there is any prey." Birchfall lashed his tail. "Ever since the battle, fresh-kill's been much harder to find."

Hollyleaf's grumbling belly told her that Birchfall

was right. Several sunrises ago all four Clans had battled in ThunderClan territory; their screeching and trampling had frightened off all the prey, or driven them deep underground.

"Maybe the prey will start to come back now," she suggested.

"Maybe," Brambleclaw agreed. "We'll head toward the ShadowClan border. There wasn't as much fighting over there."

Hollyleaf stiffened at the mention of ShadowClan. *Will I see Sol again?* she wondered.

"I wonder if we'll see any ShadowClan cats," Birchfall meowed, echoing her thought. "I'd like to know if they're all going to turn their back on StarClan, and follow that weirdo loner instead."

Hollyleaf felt as if stones were dragging in her belly, weighing her down. ShadowClan had not appeared at the last Gathering, two nights before. Instead, their leader Blackstar had come alone except for Sol, the loner who had recently arrived by the lake, and explained that his cats no longer believed in the power of their warrior ancestors.

But that can't be right! How can a Clan survive without StarClan? Without the warrior code?

"Sol's not such a weirdo," Hazeltail pointed out to Birchfall with a flick of her ears. "He predicted that the sun would vanish, and it did. None of the medicine cats knew that was going to happen."

Birchfall shrugged. "The sun came back, didn't it? It's not that big a deal."

"In any case," Brambleclaw interrupted, rising to his paws, "this is a hunting patrol. We're not going to pay a friendly visit to ShadowClan."

"But they fought beside us," Birchfall objected. "WindClan and RiverClan would have turned us into crow-food without the ShadowClan warriors. We can't be enemies again so soon, can we?"

"Not enemies," Sandstorm corrected. "But they're still a different Clan. Besides, I'm not sure we can be friends with cats who reject StarClan."

What about our own cats, then? Hollyleaf didn't dare to ask the question out loud. *Cloudtail has never believed in StarClan.* But she knew without question Cloudtail was a loyal warrior who would die for any of his Clanmates.

Brambleclaw said nothing, just gave his pelt a shake and kinked his tail to beckon the rest of the patrol. As they headed toward the thorn tunnel they met Brackenfur pushing his way into the hollow with Sorreltail and Lionblaze behind him. The dawn patrol had returned. As all three cats headed for the fresh-kill pile, Hollyleaf darted across and intercepted her brother.

"How did it go? Is there anything to report?"

Lionblaze's jaws parted in a huge yawn. *He must be exhausted,* Hollyleaf thought, *after keeping his warrior vigil and then being chosen for the dawn patrol.*

"Not a thing," he mewed, shaking his head. "All's

quiet on the WindClan border."

"We're going over toward ShadowClan territory." Alone with her brother, Hollyleaf could confess how worried she was. "I'm scared we'll meet Sol. What if he tells the other cats about the prophecy?"

Lionblaze pressed his muzzle into her shoulder. "Come on! Is it likely that Sol will be doing border patrols? He'll be lying around the ShadowClan camp, stuffing himself with fresh-kill."

Hollyleaf shook her head. "I don't know . . . I just wish we'd never told him anything."

"So do I." Lionblaze's eyes narrowed and his tone was bitter as he went on. "But it's not like Sol is bothered about us. He decided to stay with Blackstar, didn't he? He promised to help us after we told him about the prophecy, but he soon changed his mind."

"We're better off without him." Hollyleaf swiped her tongue over her brother's ear.

"Hollyleaf!"

She spun around to see Brambleclaw waiting beside the entrance to the thorn tunnel, the tip of his tail twitching impatiently.

"I've got to go," she meowed to Lionblaze, and raced across the clearing to join Brambleclaw. "Sorry," she gasped, and plunged into the tunnel.

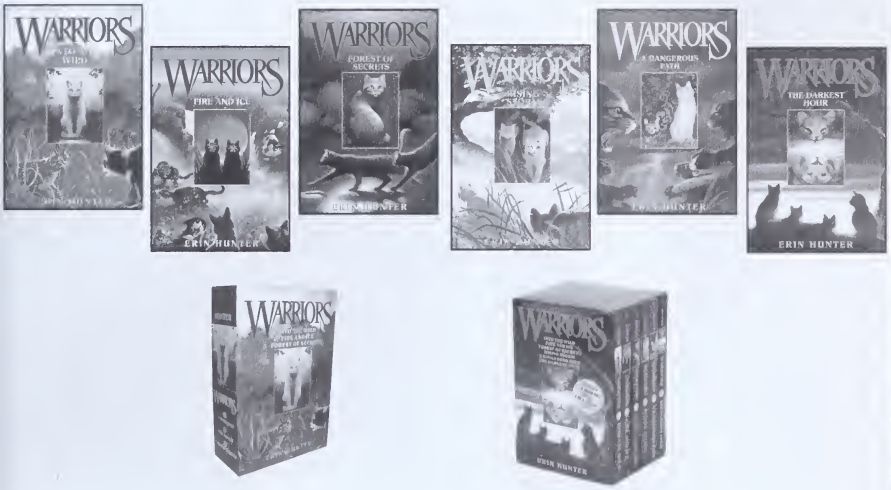
The morning had been raw and cold, but as Hollyleaf padded through the forest with her Clanmates the

clouds began to clear away. Long claws of sunlight pierced the branches, tipping the leaves with fire where they had changed from green to red and gold. Leaf-fall was almost upon them.

ENTER THE WORLD OF WARRIORS

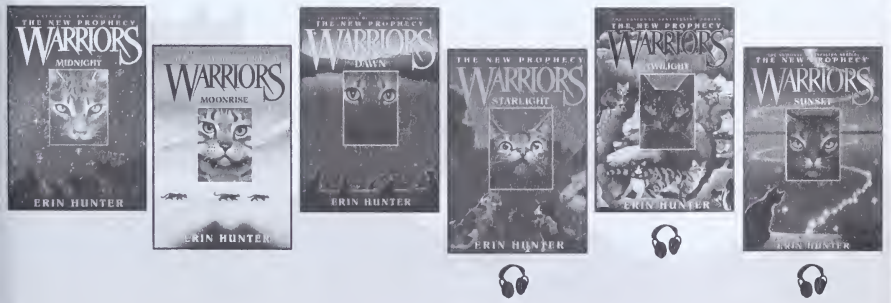
Warriors

Sinister perils threaten the four warrior Clans. Into the midst of this turmoil comes Rusty, an ordinary housecat, who may just be the bravest of them all.



Warriors: The New Prophecy

Follow the next generation of heroic cats as they set off on a quest to save the Clans from destruction.



Also available unabridged from Harper Children's Audio

HarperCollins*Children's Books*

Visit www.warriorcats.com for games, Clan lore, and much more!

ENTER THE WORLD OF WARRIORS

Warriors: Power of Three

Firestar's grandchildren begin their training as warrior cats.
Prophecy foretells that they will hold more power than any cats before them.

Delve Deeper into the Clans

Warrior Cats Come to Life in Manga!

TOKYOPOP

HarperCollins*Children's Books*

Visit www.warriorcats.com for games, Clan lore, and much more!

The *New York Times* bestselling series

SEEKERS

Three young bears... one destiny.
Discover the fate that awaits them
in this new adventure from
Erin Hunter, author of Warriors.

HarperCollins*Children's Books*

www.seekerbears.com

warriorsescapefr00hunt

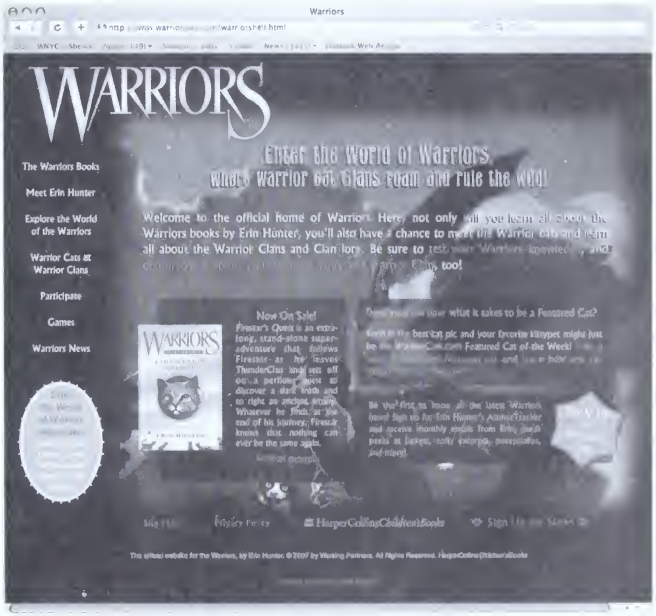
warriorsescapefr00hunt

warriorsescapefr00hunt

South San Francisco Public Library

VISIT THE WARRIORS AT WWW.WARRIORCATS.COM TO:

Meet the warrior cats,
play the Warriors Quest game,
delve into Clan lore,
receive your Warrior name,
find out which Clan you belong to,
and more!



For exclusive information on your favorite authors and artists, visit www.authortracker.com.

Manga
Action

WARRIORS

TIGERSTAR & SASHA

Sasha has decided to forge a life outside of the Clans and away from Tigerstar's evil plots and plans. But life as a rogue is much harder than she expects, and Sasha soon starts to lose hope. Will she be forced to wander alone forever, scrapping for every meal and fighting with the cruel, territorial cats who dwell in the alleys of Twolegplace?

THE MANGA REVOLUTION • LEADING 漫画革命 THE MANGA REVOLUTION • LEADING

Play the Warriors Quest game online at www.warriorcats.com, where warrior cats rule the wild!

www.harpercollinschildrens.com
BOOK NEWS, GAMES, CONTESTS, AND MORE

US $6.99 / $7.50 CAN

ISBN 978-0-06-154793-5

50699

9 780061 547935

S

WWW.TOKYOPOP.COM

ACTION

YOUTH AGE 10+

TOKYOPOP

HARPER COLLINS